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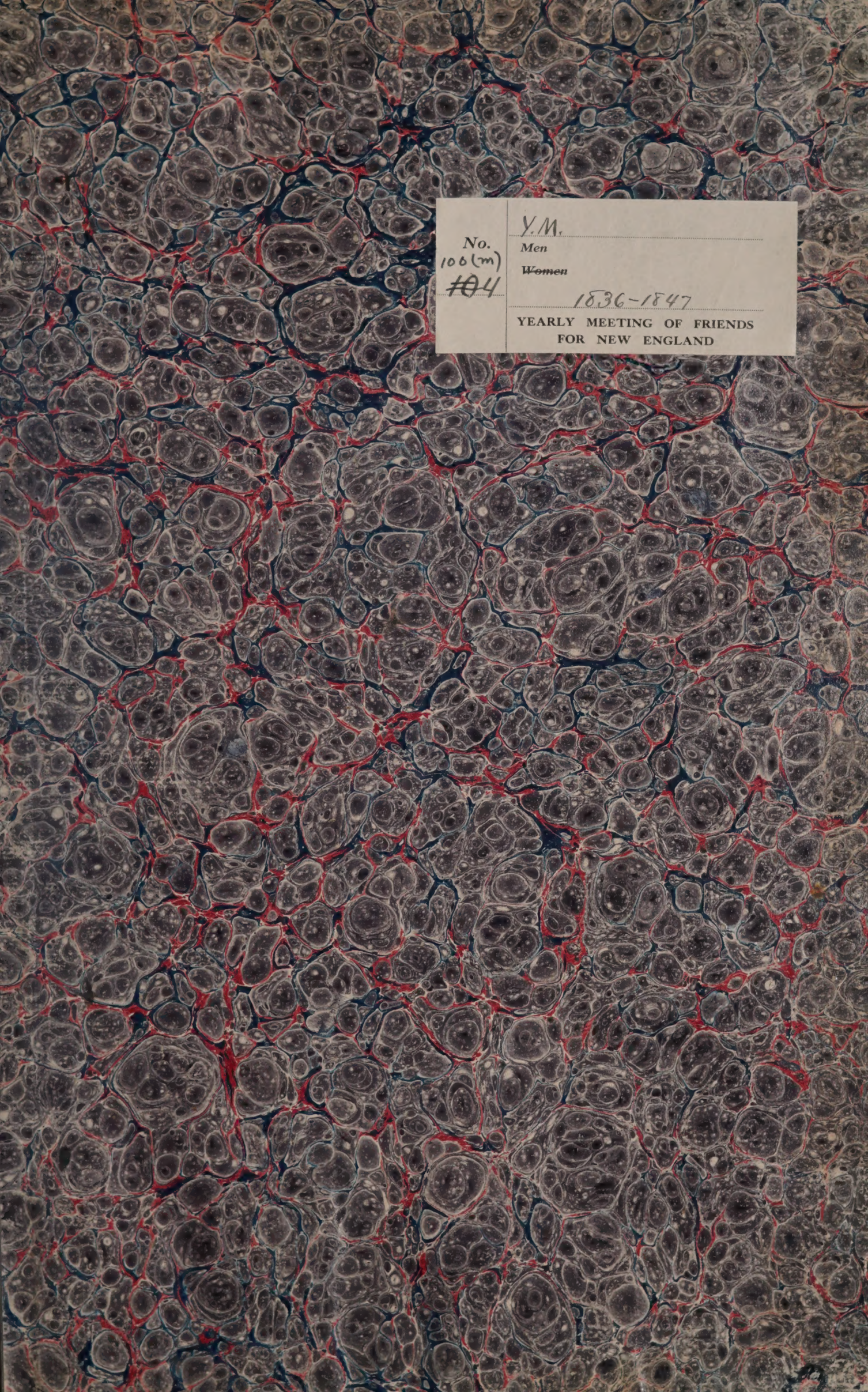
1836-1847
EARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND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1836-1847

YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

1836–47

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New England Yearly Meeting of Friends Minutes of Men Friends 1836 - 1847

1836. Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island commencing with public Meetings on Seventh day at Portsmouth and Falmouth, on First day the 12th, and at Newport for Discipline, on Second day the 13th of Sixth Month 1836.

Accounts being received from the several Quarterly Meetings relating to Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting are, For Rhode Island, Rowland Greene, Andrew Nichols, Matthew Jackson, Thomas Anthony, Thomas Rowland, David Buffum, Benjamin Buffington. For Salem, Jonathan Nichols, Esther Newhall, Edmund Gove, Moses Brown, Josiah Johnson, Sarah Boyd of Lynn, William Dillwell, Hezekiah Atkinson, Salem. For Sandwich, Abial Akin, Barnabas Nobs, Benjamin Tucker, Prince Gardner, Calvin Shephard, John Macomber. Falmouth, Thomas Jones, William Cobb, Nathaniel Webber, Nathan Tripp. Smithfield, Richard Bates, Walter Allen, Moses Aldrich, Thomas Fry. Nussaltown, Daniel Tabor, Daniel Caddock, Samuel Taylor, jun. Josiah Jones, Edmund Whitehouse, Moses Starkey. Dover, John Brown, John D. Lang, Eli Varney, John Cadet. Whose names being called, they were all present, except one from Sandwich.

Having at this time the acceptable company of our Friends named Rotch of Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, Samuel Rhoads of Darby Monthly Meeting, Pennsylvania, Isaac Thorne of Vine Street Monthly Meeting of New York, and Joshua Lynch of Upper Springfield Monthly Meeting, Ohio; satisfactory minutes or certificates of the unity of their Friends with their respective engagements were presented and read, as was also a minute of Upper Springfield Monthly Meeting, Ohio, on behalf of Samuel Woolman companion to the last named Friend; and a minute of Vine Street Monthly Meeting on behalf of John J. Boyce, companion to Isaac Thorne.

The general Epistle, issued by the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London the past year, an acceptable Epistle from the same Meeting to this; a communication to their own Members, transmitted to us with the above; and acceptable Epistles from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in Ireland, of the past, and also of the present year; and one from each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on the Continent, were received and read to our satisfaction.

It appears by the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings that Rhode Island and Sandwich have paid their proportions of Stock to our Treasurer, and that the other Meetings have given directions for the payment to them of their respective proportions, as requested last year. Clark Stone, Micajah C. Pratt, George Rowland, Rowland Rathbun, Daniel Tabor, Eli Varney, and William Cobb, were appointed a Committee to examine into the Treasurers accounts; prepare a sum sufficient to be raised for the service of the ensuing year; also to name a Treasurer and report at a future sitting.

1836. By the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings we are informed, that Rhode Island has united with Sandwich Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Mary Thorn, 2d. and with South Kingstown in approving the public ministry of Elizabeth Peckham — that Sandwich has united with Dartmouth Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of Abraham Russell and Rhoda Tripp, and with Westport Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Barbara Gifford, to the station of Elders; also with New Bedford Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Abraham Davis, and in the appointment of Mary Thorn to the station of an Elder; and with Nantucket Mo. Meeting in displacing Lenas Gardner from that station — that Smithfield has united with Uxbridge Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Edward Foster to the station of an Elder — that Swanborough has united with Nassalboro' Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Sarah Hoxie with Vassalboro' Mo. Meeting in the appointment of John Dunn and with Lynne Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Silas Paddock, Judith Paddock, and Lydia Taylor to the station of Elders — that Dover has united with Sandwich Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Samuel Shubner and Judah P. Young; and in the appointment of Joseph Varney, of Berwick, and Hannah Varney to the station of Elders, and with Lynn Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Sarah P. Tuttle to the same station.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met pursuant to adjournment. Thomas Howland, on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting that they had concluded to have Abraham Thornton, jun. for Clerk, and Stephen A. Chase for Assistant Clerk, which was united with, and they appointed to those services for the year ensuing.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our friends Hannah Rhoads, of Chester Mo. Meeting, Pennsylvania, Hannah Harrington jun. of Chester Mo. Meeting, New Jersey, and Deborah Cox, of Scipio Mo. Meeting, New York, also Grace Evans, of Chester, companion to Hannah Rhoads — satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with their present religious engagements, — were read at this sitting.

Thomas Howland, John Wilbur, John Meader, Rowland Greene, Stephen A. Chase, Moses A. Brooks, Samuel B. Jones, John Warren, John P. Lang, Thomas Hoag, Daniel Tabor, Daniel Paddock, Thomas Jones, William Dorsett, Samuel Boyce, Elijah Johnson, Wm. Cobb, Joseph Davis, Wm. Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, John Milton Earle, Moses A. Cornell, and Joseph L. Hoag, was appointed to take into consideration the Epistles from our Friends of the several Yearly Meetings, read at the morning sitting; and as way may open for it, prepare essays of communications to those Meetings respectively, and produce them at a future sitting or sittings.

Dover Quarterly Meeting having proposed that their Meetings which have been held at Dover, in the 10th month, and 4th in 5th mo be held at Sandwich; and that the Meeting which has been held at Sandwich in the first month, should in future be held at the Upper Meeting House, in Rochester; at

1836. as the same time respectively as they have usually been held; which was, on consideration, united with by the Meeting and they were authorized to hold those Meetings as proposed. And the Clerk was directed to furnish the Quarterly Meeting with a copy of this minute.

The annual report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, and being satisfactory to the Meeting, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. It follows:—

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Boarding School Committee report: That they have endeavoured, during the past year, to discharge the duties confided to them by the Yearly Meeting, in superintending the various concerns of the Institution.

"Since our last report, Seth and Mary Davis Davis, by their request, been released from their engagement as Superintendents, and Enoch and Lydia Reed have again come in temporarily to supply their places. Moses B. Lockwood, Jonathan Bowne, Lewis Taber, and Valentine Meader, are employed as teachers in the Boys' School, and Mary Ann Barker, Emmeline Aldrich, and Elizabeth H. Osborne, in the Girls'. George W. Read is employed as Instructor in the Languages. Isaac C. Hathaway continues to exercise a care over the Boys out of school hours, and to act as book keeper.

"The Treasurer's and Superintendents accounts have been settled, and it appears that on account of some improvements in the buildings and for other purposes, some expenses have accrued beyond the usual expenditures, and that the receipts for board and tuition, from the income of the funds, and from other sources, have fallen short of meeting the expenses, about one thousand dollars; notwithstanding which, we think proper to propose, that the price for the admission of scholars, and the privilege to Monthly Meetings, be continued the same as last year.

"The average number of scholars during the past year has been one hundred and twenty seven. — Meetings have been regularly kept up, and harmony prevails.

"In the 5th month last the accompanying Circular on the subject of plainness was forwarded to the several Monthly Meetings, and there appears at the present time to be a cheerful conformity on the part of the inmates of the Institution, to the requisitions therein contained.

"In addition to the attention usually given to the Schools, the Committee deem it proper to inform the Yearly Meeting, that in the tenth and fourth months a Special Committee visited the Schools, and spent several days in investigating the improvement of the Scholars and the condition of the Institution. By the reports of these Committees we are informed, that the state of the Schools, with respect to literary improvement, was very satisfactory, the exercises of the scholars evincing an industrious attention to their various studies. They also inform us, that the Schools are under good government, the children appearing readily to conform to the rules of the Institution.

On behalf of the Committee,

Arnold Congdon, Clerk."

Boarding School, 5 mo. 6, 1836.

4

1836.

Circular,

Issued to in the Annual Report

of a meeting of the Committee of the New England Yearly

Meeting's Boarding School, held 8th month 7th, 1836.

The subject of an increased observance in this Institution of plainness of speech, behaviour and clothing, having from time to time, claimed the serious attention of this committee, and a lively concern on this account having been manifested at our last Yearly Meeting, we have believed it right for us at this time to revive the subject to our friends, and to point out more explicitly than we have heretofore done, what we consider a proper dress for the children of this School.

While we feel that we are not called upon to enter extensively into a vindication of the propriety of maintaining our testimonies in the particulars alluded to, we would affectionately remind our younger friends, that they are in accordance, as we believe, with the beautiful system of Christian simplicity taught by our blessed Lord and his apostles. And we may appeal to the experience of our Society to prove, that they have been as a hedge round about us, which it has ever been perilous to break down: and when, in individual instances, this has been done, that weakness and loss have been the consequence.

We should ever remember the apostolic exhortation, "Let your moderation be known unto all men." And "let not your adorning be the outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold and of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

Were our minds, dear friends, duly impressed with a sense of the watchful love of our adorable Redeemer and Preserver — were our labor and dependence placed on Him — how should we be raised above the undue attachment to the things of time and sense and a conformity to the vain fashions and customs of the world. And in accordance with the recommendations of our Discipline, we earnestly desire that parents and guardians would impress upon the minds of their children the necessity of maintaining plainness of speech and behaviour, which is strictly required in the School. And it will be expected of every male admitted into this Institution, that his body coat, jacket and vest be single breasted, without tappets or falling collars, and that where any of these are figured, that they be of patterns consistent with the plainness required in other parts of the dress — and that they wear hats, caps being excluded. In the dress of females we expect a correspondent degree of plainness, and that they avoid the extravagance of the fashions of the present day. They will be required to wear silk or plain straw bonnets without any trimmings for ornament: — their tracks or gowns should be of materials that are plain in colour, and conformable in the size of the sleeves, and in other respects to convenience and propriety, and not according to the vain fashions of the world. Their handkerchiefs and cuffs should be without edgings or frillings — and no article intended for ornament merely, will be permitted to be worn.

In order to carry into effect these regulations, the Superintendents are to examine the trunks and packages of the children

previous to admission, and if any articles are found unsuitable on account of plainness, or for any other cause, they will be laid aside, or altered, and the expense charged to the parents or guardians.

No Scholar will be admitted into the School after the present quarter or permitted to remain here, who does not comply strictly with these regulations. And Committees of Monthly Meetings are desired to be careful not to give certificates to any children who will not conform thereto.

On behalf, and by direction of the Committee,

Arnold Congdon, Clerk.

The Friends who composed the Committee of last year, (with the exception of our late friends William Almy, Stephen Rogers, George Mitchell and John Winslow, deceased,) were continued, to constitute, with such Friends as may be appointed by the Women's Meeting, a Committee for the superintendence and government of the School, for the year ensuing, or till another appointment. (See page 37.)

Adjourned to the 3d hour tomorrow afternoon.

Third day afternoon, the 14th. Met according to adjournment. The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present.

The Meeting then proceeded to the consideration of the State of Society, as opened by the reading of the Queries and the answers received to them from the several Quarterly Meetings, which were gone thro' with. During the time these occupied, a feeling of solemnity was spread over the Meeting, and much of Christian counsel, caution and encouragement, in regard to various subjects then brought into view, was freely and affectionately imparted; as we trust, under the influence of Gospel love; and which we much desire, may be treasured up and kept in remembrance when we have retired to our several homes.

The Meeting then adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow, morning.

Fourth day, morning, the 15th.

Friends again assembled.

Representatives all present.

The following communication from our dear aged friend Moses Brown, to the Clerk of this Meeting, was presented & read, viz.:

"Providence, 6th month, 1836.

"Dear Friend, I have, through life, to ask of the Yearly Meeting a release of the care and labour of being the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting's School Fund, which I have sustained from its commencement on Rhode Island, under the care of the Meeting for Sufferings, and since under the School Committee, now about fifty three years; and though my concern for the prosperity of the Institution remains, I find my age, debility and often infirmities are such as induces me to ask a release from the necessary cares and labours of that Office, and that some suitable person may be appointed in my place; which please to mention in my behalf to the Meeting; and thy compliance will oblige

Thy friend,

Moses Brown."

Which called forth an expression of our sympathy with this our beloved aged friend & brother, who has been for many years deeply interested in, and done much to promote the guarded literary and

1836. religious education of the children and youth of our Society; and it has been grateful to Friends to be assured that his concern for the welfare of the Institution under the care of this Meeting is still continued.

In compliance with his request, it was the conclusion of the Meeting to release him from the appointment, the duties of which he has long discharged to the satisfaction of Friends, as soon as the necessary transfer of the Books, Papers and Securities, now in his possession, can be made to such Friend as may be named by this Meeting to succeed him in the appointment. And the Clerk was directed to transmit to him a copy of this minute.

Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, Stephen Gould, Estes Newhall, Thomas Anthony, John Wilbur, Thomas Jones & David Buffum, were appointed a Committee to consider of and propose at a future sitting, the name of some suitable Friend to serve this Meeting as Treasurer of the School Fund.

Answers to the Queries on the subject of Education sent down last year, are now received from all our Quarterly Meetings.

Which being read, and the concern for the guarded education of our Youth, which has ever been viewed by us among the most interesting and important which has engaged our attention, having revived in this Meeting; we appoint

Stephen A. Chase, David Buffum, Jon.a Congdon, Eli Varney, Josiah Jones, Thomas Jones, John Wilbur, John D. Sanford, Sam.l Boyce, Sam.l D. Rubey, Wm. Hall, Seth Davis, Thos. Howland, Wm. Jenkins, Rowland Greene, Thomas Hazard of Wilton, Joseph Hoag, Prince Gardner, Paul Wing, Moses H. Tuttle, John M. Card, Chas. Wing, Sam.l Taylor, jun., Moses Cartland & James Oliver to take the information received from the Quarterly Meetings, and the subject of Education generally, into consideration, and report at a future sitting, what measures, if any, it may be best to adopt at this time, in relation thereto.

The Committee appointed last year to remit the amount subscribed to aid our friends of North Carolina Yearly Meeting in removing the people of colour under their charge, to the Free States, report, That on the 27th of 7th month last, they forwarded the sum of fourteen hundred dollars, being the amount subscribed for that purpose — the receipt of which has been acknowledged by David White, the Treasurer of that Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,
William Jenkins.

Newport, 6m.o 14, 1836.

Which was satisfactory to the Meeting.

The Committee on the subject of the Removal of the Yearly Meeting produced the following Report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

A Meeting of the Committee appointed to consider the subject of removing our Yearly Meeting to some more central place, met at Newport, 6m.o 14, 1836.

The Committee having heard some time in deliberation on the important subject of their appointment, have, with much unanimity, come to the conclusion, that it may be right to remove our Yearly Meeting when some suitable, [illegible]

1836 other accommodations may be provided. Which we submit to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting.

By direction and on behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Fry, Clerk.

Which being read, and deliberately considered, was accepted by the Meeting. And the Committee now under appointment requesting to be released from further attention to the subject, we appoint

Thomas Arthurs, Edw.d Wing, David Bursham, Stephen Gould, Tho.s Rowland, Stephen Atkinson, Nathan Breed of Lynn, John Sage, William Bassett, Esqrs Newhall, George Howland, Job Tibbly, Isaac R. Gifford, Seth Tilley, Francis Taber, William Turnbull, Caleb Hawkes, Thomas Jones, William Cobb, Peter M. Morrill, Thomas Fry, Rowl.d Rathbun, Walter Allen, Ichabod Cook jun.r Moses Aldrich, Moses Starkey, Stephen Jones jun.r Daniel Taber, Paul Taber, Sam.l Taylor jr., Eli Varney, John D. Lang, John Bearle, Nicholas Jones, & John Brown,

to consider of a suitable place for the location of the Yearly Meeting, when it may be removed from this Island; prepare estimates of the probable cost of accommodations for holding it; and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The following report was produced by the Committee on Indian concerns, viz.t

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee on Indian concerns report, That a portion of this number residing in the vicinity of the Penobscot, have made a visit to the Indian settlement since our last report; and from their observation, and the views of the late Agent of the State of Maine, with whom they have conferred and have been in correspondence on the subject of the concerns of this people, it appears that there is encouragement to continue the care which has heretofore been extended by this Yearly Meeting.

The plan of a "Public Farm", as named in the Report of last year, has been commenced, and ten acres of land were cleared & cultivated, yielding heavy crops of oats & potatoes. The late Agent writes to one of the Committee, under date of 5th m.o 6, 1836, that he had "provided the materials to build a small house on Orson Island; and had caused timber to be got for a house for the accommodation of the old and sick, and the orphan children of the tribe." It is believed that the present Agent will finish the house for the Keeper immediately, and that he has agreed with a person to take charge of the public Farm, for one year at least. The late Agent also says, I made a petition and signed it as Agent, recommending an appropriation by the Legislature for the purpose of establishing on Orson Island, an Indian Manual Labour School, for the purpose of instructing the Children, from three years old and upwards, in all agricultural pursuits, and to give them a good English school education. The petition did not meet the approbation of the Legislature, nor did I expect it would; but am convinced there are men in that body who will favour this system." and adds, "the friends of the Indians must continue to urge the necessity of such a measure until the Legislature become sensible of its propriety, and I have no doubt the plan will succeed and the Penobscot tribe ultimately be

1836. ...ment to the same number of their whole neighbourhood." The subjoins "I do think your Society can do much to aid them; but I am confident we can do them no lasting good until a manual labour school is established, and the whole charge taken of the children - and remove them to habits of industry, and educate them at the same time."

"I perceive that there has not been much advancement the past year in the instruction of their children; the Catholic Priest not having been successful in what he may have attempted in this respect. Three new houses have been built the last season. There are now about thirty framed dwelling-houses, some of them well finished & painted, and seven or eight barns. Their principal produce is common grain and potatoes. A number of the Tribe have thrown off the Indian dress, and adopted that of the white; and some of their females are good dressmakers. We are informed that several new houses are to be built this season, and propose that the usual sum be placed at the disposal of such Committee as may be appointed, for the benefit of this interesting people.

On behalf of the Committee,
Rowland Greene,
William Jenkins,
Stephen Jones, Jun.

Newport, 6th mo. 14th. 1836.

Which being read and considered, was acceptable to the Meeting, and the contents of it being such as to encourage us to believe that usefulness will result from a continuance of care on the part of this Yearly Meeting, the Friends now under appointment, viz. John Warren, Caleb C. Nichols, Stephen Jones of Cumberland, North Road, Joseph Rowland, Abijah Newhall, Rowland Greene, Wm. Jenkins, Abijah Chase, and Allen Wing, are continued to extend such further aid as may open for, in promoting the objects the Yearly Meeting has heretofore had in view in this concern, and to visit the Indians next year. And agreeable to the suggestion of the Committee, the sum of fifty dollars is placed at their disposal - which our Treasurer is requested to pay to Stephen Jones, Jr.

A Testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Obadiah Brown, was read, & being approved, was directed to be recorded.

A Testimony of Scituate Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Abigail Mosher, was also read, & being approved, was directed to be recorded.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth-day afternoon, the 15th.

Friends again met, according to adjournment.

The Representatives were all present.

The Committee having charge of that subject, proposed William Jenkins for Treasurer of the School Fund, which was united with, and he was accordingly appointed to that service.

William Taylor, Jno. Congdon, Jno. Howland, Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum, Stephen Gould & Joseph Anthony were appointed a Committee to settle the accounts of our friend Moses Brown as Treasurer of the School Fund, receive from him the Books, Securities and other papers now in his possession relative to that Fund, and deliver them to the Treasurer now appointed,

1836. taking his receipt therefor and accounting on behalf of this Meeting any necessary discharges to the former Treasurer. And report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers accounts and for other purposes, produced the following report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurers accounts propose a sum to be raised, and name a Treasurer for the year ensuing. Report, That they have settled with the Treasurer, and find a balance in his hands of seven hundred eighty five $\frac{23}{100}$ dollars, and recommend that seven hundred dollars be raised for the ensuing year, and propose David Buffum for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m° 15, 1836. Clark Shove.

which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting: and in conformity therewith it was concluded to raise seven hundred dollars, the sum proposed; David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of this sum, viz. Rhode Island 30, Prot. Sandwich 30, Salem 12½, Smithfield 12½, Dover 6¼, Falmouth 4¾, Vassalborough 4.=

The Records of this Meeting for sufferings for the past year were read, and the attention thereby manifested to the interesting concerns of Society that have engaged their attention, was satisfactory to this Meeting. And it appearing from their Records, that Friends of that Meeting have been brought into much feeling and exercise on account of the circulation among us of publications purporting to be treatises upon and expositions of the principles of our Religious Society in various points of doctrine, but which are unauthorised by the Society; and which give unsound and unjust views of our Christian principles. This exercise has resulted in the preparation of a minute on the subject, which having been again deliberately read, was united with and adopted by this Meeting; [x] and has also received the approbation of the Women's Meeting. And Abraham Shearman, Jr. George Howland and Wm. C. Taber were requested to procure the printing of 4000 copies of the minute for distribution among our own members and others, as occasion may offer for it; & present their account to the Treasurer of this Meeting for payment.

[x] For which see page 13.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends, appointed to visit subordinate Meetings, and Individuals, as occasion might require, and way open for it, and to endeavour to encourage & strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles & testimonies, and in the practice of love and unity, produced the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting. — The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends appointed last year to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals as way might open and circumstances require, report, That some attention has been given to the object of their appointment: and they trust that usefulness has resulted from the labour bestowed. And they feel willing to suggest for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, the continuance of a similar Committee, as they apprehend there still exist cases, in which the care of a Committee would be proper.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m° 15, 1836. Thos. Howland,
Hannah Gould, Jun.

1836. which, being considered, was acceptable to the Meeting, and the Friends now named appointment, viz. James Tabor, Jonas Tucker, John Page, Thomas Jones, John Warren, Moses Hartley, Silas Cornell, Eli Varnum, Jesse Wheeler, Benjamin Trafton, Samuel Macy, Wm. Jenkins, Abr. Sherman, jun. Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, Walter Allen, James S. Jun. Caleb Nichols, Elijah Pope, Thos. Rowland, Stephen Jones, Joshua Jenkins, Benj. Easton, John Osborne, Paul Peck & Wm. Cobb, were continued to a similar service for the year ensuing, to labour therein as way may open, and best wisdom direct, and report next year.

The Friends who now constitute the Meeting for sufferings were continued, to constitute a similar Meeting for the year ensuing, or till another appointment with the exception of our friend John Griscom, who though now present, but expecting to reside without the limits of this Yearly Meeting, requests to be excused.

Moses Brown,	William Cobb,	Nicholas Congdon	Prince Gardner
Rowland Jones,	Joshua Howland	John Osborne	Moses Varnum
Thomas Rowland	Thomas Anthony	William Jenkins	Moses Hartley
Benj.a Trafton	John Warren	Jonathan Dennis	Joseph Metcalf
James Tucker	Walter Easton	Stephen Gould	Andrew Nichols.
Rowland Ashburn	Joshua Jenkins	David Buffum	Wm. Fry, Bolton.
Wm. Sherman, Jr.	John Brown.	Joseph Chase	John Meader
Stephen Jones	Stephen H. Chase	Oliver Chase	Edwd. Wing,
Estes Newhall	Daniel Johnson	Caleb Nichols.	Arnold Congdon
Walter Allen	James N. Fry.	Peter Peckham	George Howland
Francis Tabor	Benjamin Fry.	Wm. Reynolds,	Nathan Pope,
			& Wm. Bassett.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth-day morning, the 17th. Friends again convened, pursuant to adjournment. The Representatives were all present.

A Testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend, Daniel Howland, was read, and being approved, was directed to be recorded.

The Committee, to which was referred the answers to the Queries in regard to Schools, and the subject of Education generally, produced the following report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting, now sitting.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Education, report, That they have taken it into consideration, and formed a digest of the information received from the several Quarterly Meetings. They regret that this information is not more complete in its details, to enable the Yearly Meeting to have a more definite knowledge of the number of Children that have attended select or family schools the past year. The accounts however, afford evidence that increased attention has been given to that subject, while they believe that much yet remains to be accomplished, within the power of Friends. The Committee are desirous that all our members should be encouraged to be concerned in this important and very interesting concern. Were a more lively interest awakened, and renewed efforts made in reference to it, the results would doubtless be extensively beneficial, and afford a degree of satisfaction to those engaged to promote the guarded education of their children. By the accounts received, there appear to have been, in the course of the year, 22 Family, 2 Preparative

1836.

Meeting, and 3 Monthly Meeting Schools, — one or two of which have continued the greater part of the year, while the remainder have generally continued a few months only. The number of Children that attended them is reported to be about four hundred, making an increase since last year of nearly two hundred. — Although we find by the reports, that the number of Friends Children within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, between the ages of four and twenty one, is upwards of three thousand, yet about one seventh only enjoy the advantages of Schools under the care of members of our Society. From this view of the subject, the importance of further exertion will more deeply, perhaps, impress the minds of Friends.

The Committee are well aware, from the scattered location of Friends in some parts of the Yearly Meeting, that many difficulties are to be encountered in carrying their wishes into practical effect. In concluding this report, however, we cannot but express an earnest desire, that the younger members of the Society, who expect to engage in the business of teaching, would participate in the concern which attends the minds of their elder Brethren and Sisters; and if they sometimes make a trifling sacrifice on their own part, to enable parents to avail themselves more extensively of their services, the consciousness of having been instrumental in doing good will no doubt be a sufficient reward. We do, therefore, earnestly hope, that a deep and abiding interest in the welfare of our own Society, with the desire of becoming its useful instruments, will induce them to adopt a disinterested course, in accordance with Christian duty.

We would propose to the Yearly Meeting, that the Queries adopted last year, be again sent down to the subordinate Meetings, with a note appended, requesting them to be particular in making full and definite returns of all the children that attend Schools under the care of Friends, and in giving such other information in relation to this subject, as may be interesting and useful to the Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m: 17, 1836. Moses A. Cartland.

Which being read, was acceptable to the Meeting; — and Friends feeling a concern, that the interesting subject of the guarded Education of our beloved Children and Youth may continue to rest impressively upon the minds of all our members, and produce such efforts to accomplish the object in view as circumstances will admit; the Clerk was directed to forward copies of the report to our subordinate Meetings; and they were requested to give the necessary attention to preparing Answers, and giving as much in detail as they are able, the information required and transmit such answers & information through the usual channels of communication, to this Meeting next year.

The Queries above referred to, are,

1. How many Schools are there within your limits, under the care of Friends, distinguishing between Monthly Meeting, Preparative Meeting, and Family Schools? — and what has been the average duration of these Schools during the year?

2. How many children of Friends have attended Friends' Schools within the year?

Essays of communication to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and one to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent were produced by the Committee appointed

1836. pointed for that purpose, and being read and approved, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and transmitted to those Meetings, respectively.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our friends from abroad with minutes, agreeable to extracts now read.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from the minutes not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

Having through the various sittings of this our Annual Assembly, been favoured to act upon and bring to a satisfactory result, the interesting concerns of Society that have engaged our attention, in a feeling of much brotherly harmony and condescension, under a grateful sense of this renewed evidence of Divine regard, thus mercifully dispensed; and with fervent desires, that we may increasingly dwell under the influence of that, which will continued to cement us together in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace; we conclude, in having to meet again on this Island, at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk.

Information respecting Correspondents, contained in Epistles rec^d this year.

viz. From New-York.— Benjamin Bosa, of Smyrna, Chenango Co. N.Y. is appointed Correspondent of Smyrna M^o. Mg in Pharaoh Creek Quarterly Meeting. — Silas Cornell, of Rochester, Monroe Co. N.Y. is appointed Correspondent of Rochester M^o. Mg. in Farmington Quarter, in place of Mead Atwater, removed — and Henry Griffin, of Mamaroneck, Westchester Co. N.Y. is appointed Correspondent of Purchase M^o. Mg in Purchase Quarter, in place of Richard Mott, released at his request.

From Ohio.— Ralph Cowgill is appointed Correspondent of Plainfield Monthly Meeting, recently established. — Address, N. Canton, Stark county, Ohio.

From Indiana.— The name of the Post-Office, at Ripley, Rush County, Indiana, is changed to Carthage.

From Epistles of 10 mo. 1836.

In White Water Quarter — James Cox, Richmond, Wayne Co. Ind. in the place of Isaac Barker, deceased, for Chester M^o. Meeting. — Richard Ratcliff, Greensboro' Henry Co. Ia. for Duck Creek M^o. Mg.

In Blue River Quarter — Isaac Cox, in the place of John S. Shawnor, dec^d. Azalia Post Office, Bartholomew Co. Ia. for Driftwood M^o. Mg.

In White Lick Quarter — David Winslow, Fairfield Co. Ia. for Fairfield M^o. Mg. — Zimri Cook, Noblesville, Hamilton Co. Ia. for Westfield M^o. Mg. — Robert W. Hodson, Noblesville, Hendricks Co. Ia. for Mill Creek M^o. Meeting.

Minute of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England 1836.

This Meeting having become painfully aware that there are in circulation among our members various publications purporting to be treatises upon and expositions of the principles of our religious Society, in various points of doctrine; but which are unauthorized by the Society, and which give unknown and unjust views of our Christian principles, and are calculated to lead the minds of the unwary away from the faith once delivered to the Saints, and from a settlement in the blessed truths of the Gospel always most surely believed and professed by us as a people, have felt themselves bound again to declare their unshaken faith in the truths thus sought to be laid waste.

We have always believed, we have been unwavering in our acknowledgment and profession of the truths declared in the Holy Scriptures respecting the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, that "He "was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, lived & suffered "in the world, went about doing good, enjoined by his precepts and doctrines "the future rewards of the righteous and the punishments of the wicked, and "by miracles, healing all manner of diseases and sickness among the people, "he showed forth his power, his goodness and his wonderful works among "the children of men, and finally made an offering of himself on the cross, "as a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of "the whole world." And we are prepared to confess, that no other foundation can any man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ; or in the words of George Fox to the Governor of Barbadoes, "This "Jesus, who was the foundation of the apostles and prophets, is our foun-"dation; and we believe there is no other foundation to be laid, but that "which is laid, even Christ Jesus, who tasted death for every man, "shed his blood for all men, and is the propitiation for our sins." We have also been constant in the profession of our belief, of the authenticity and divine authority of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and in accordance with the testimony of Robert Barclay, do freely confess, "that whatsoever doctrine is "contrary unto their testimony may therefore be justly rejected as false". — And further, in the words of the same writer, "We do firmly "believe that there is no other gospel or doctrine to be preached, "but that which was delivered to the apostles, and do freely "subscribe to that saying, Let him that preacheth any other "gospel than that which hath been already preached by the a-"postles, and according to the Scriptures, be accursed."

But while we have thus held and constantly professed, we have also been steadfast in our belief, according to the Scriptures, that this blessed Saviour ascended in our hearts by his Spirit, according to his own testimony, & for he ascended to the glory which he had with the Father before the world was: "I will not "leave you comfortless, I will come unto you." John XIV. 18. And to the testimony of the apostle: "For God, who commanded the "light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus

1836. "Christ" 2 Cor. iv. 6. And we have ever been concerned to direct all to the Light of Christ in the secret of the soul, as that principle of Divine Life by which alone regeneration and sanctification are to be witnessed, by which alone our dark hearts can be illuminated, and we be made truly alive unto God. That while we have redemption through his Blood, even the forgiveness of our sins, & that those who were afar off are made nigh by the Blood of Christ, we also firmly believe, that it is only through living faith in him that we can come to experience the blessed effects of what he has wrought out for us and this faith is not of ourselves, it is the gift of God.

We are concerned renewedly to bear our testimony to the spirituality of the Christian religion, that as the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, in our fallen and unregenerate state, so it is in the heart that the work of grace must be experienced; and that in order thereto, we must submit to the cleansing operations of this Spirit, there become subject to his righteous government, and conformed to his holy will. "Then, is he made unto us, "Wisdom & righteousness, and sanctification and redemption." 1 Cor. i. 30.— It is only as we thus dwell under the influence of the Holy Spirit in our minds, that we can experience any right qualification to labour in the blessed Master's cause; and may we all seek after and wait for the fresh putting forth of this heavenly Guide, ever bearing in mind the declaration of Christ, "Without me ye can do nothing."

We are concerned to exhort all our members to seek a settlement in these everlasting truths, and avoiding all speculation, rather humbly pray for ability in meekness and simplicity to obey Gods Holy will. And therefore, we beseech you, all unprofitable reading, and the reception of those unsound doctrines and sentiments which are now in circulation. Rather reverently read and meditate in the Holy Scriptures, with humble prayer to the Lord that he would open your hearts to receive & savingly apply the precious truths of his Gospel; — so shall you be made partakers of his salvation.

Beloved Brethren and Sisters, we have no new doctrines to offer, but we feel earnestly engaged to exhort all our fellow members to a careful observance of that solemn warning of our Lord and Saviour: "The time shall come when they shall say, Lo, here is Christ, or Lo, he is there; Go not after them."

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Yearly Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman Jun^r
Hannah Gould, Jun^r } Clerks

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Rhode Island, from the 12th to the 17th inclusive of the Sixth month, 1836.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

We have been comforted together at this season, with a renewed sense of the continued goodness and mercy of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd, and have been graciously favoured measurably to feel the overshadowings of his love, whose mercy endureth forever. — In a degree of this heart humbling and tenderness feeling we can salute you as brethren beloved in the Lord, and express our earnest solicitude that you with us may be more and more firmly established on that immutable rock, which has ever been the foundation of the Church, even Christ Jesus. We have been renewedly convinced of the verdancy and unchangeable truth of that memorable saying of our Blessed Lord, 'I am the way and the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me!' And earnest desires have arisen that Christ may dwell richly in us by faith.

We have remembered with encouragement the triumphs of faith as declared by the great Apostle to the Gentiles in addressing the Hebrews, and are concerned to gird up our loins and take courage from the exhortation that 'seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author & finisher of our faith; who, for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

In reviewing the state of Society with us, while our hearts are pained with the evidences still existing of a want of a lively zeal in the blessed Master's cause, yet we trust there are amongst us those whose hearts are warmed with love to him, and who are seeking strength from him, to labour in his vineyard. — May the hands of these be strengthened, and above all may they be clothed with fervent charity, that charity which suffereth long and is kind, envieth not, is not puffed up, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. — Taking courage from the apostolic declaration, "Brethren, if any of you do err from the Truth, and one convert him, let him know, that he that converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." — We believe there is nothing in the exercise of this Christian virtue, inconsistent with a faithful support of our religious profession, for otherwise, we view it as an essential qualification for effectual labour in promoting the cause of Truth, and rightly exercising the discipline of the Church, and we would if, might be, strengthen your hands, to the faithful performance of this Christian duty.

What more encouraging language can we apply to ourselves than that of the Apostle. "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. Speak not evil one of another brethren."

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Meekness and gentleness, love and forbearance are eminently the virtues of the true Christian. Clothed with these virtues, how is he prepared for the trials incident to his earthly pilgrimage? How is he furnished with a shield against the assaults of the adversary to move him away from his hope in Christ? With what powerful motives is he actuated to put his trust in the Lord alone and to yield that holy law which commands that we love one another, not in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth; remembering that this is his injunction, that we should believe on the name of his son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

We have at this time in attendance a large number of the younger members of our meeting, in many of whose minds, as we trust, the Lord has begun a good work, and who are mercifully enabled to bow to the humbling operations of Divine Grace, and who are seeking to become established in the faith of the Gospel of the Son of God: "in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." We are desirous that the number of these may be increased, and that through dedication of heart they may come to know Christ to be made unto them wisdom & righteousness and sanctification and redemption, walking as children of the light. For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth. Thus will they become qualified to take the places of those upon whose shoulders have long rested the testimonies of Truth, and who are fast leaving their works to reward them. We are the more impressed with the necessity of dedication among those in the earlier walks of life, from perceiving from year to year, the seats of many to be vacant, who at one time have been accustomed to mingle with us in our annual assemblies, admonishing us by their counsel and animating us by their example. They have gone from works to rewards; they are, we trust, resting from their labours, and reaping the reward of well doing.— Concerning whom we have this faith — for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. O may we be animated by the virtuous example, be encouraged by the lively faith of these devoted men, to follow them as they followed Christ. So shall we be prepared to glorify him here on earth, and to enjoy him in a never ending hereafter.

Your truly acceptable Epistle of last year has been received and read in this Meeting. And we have also read with much satisfaction, an Epistle addressed by you to your Quarterly & Monthly Meetings, and which has been transmitted to our subordinate Meetings, that they may participate in the Christian counsel therein contained.

Our minds have been renewedly awakened at this time to the importance of faithfully maintaining sound Christian doctrine as declared in the Holy Scriptures, and always believed & professed by our religious Society: and we have thought best again to issue a declaration to our members embracing some of these important doctrines. A copy of which will accompany this, directed to your Meeting.

A.

We have thankfully to acknowledge the overshadowing goodness of the Lord, in that we have been favoured to transact the weighty and interesting concerns which have come before us, in brotherly love and harmony.

You have dear Brethren been brought very near to us in the Lord. May the God of peace himself give you peace always, by all means. Finally brethren farewell. And may we all be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love & peace shall be with us.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun^r Clk.

P.S. Our Correspondents with your Meeting, are.
Moses Brown, Providence, R.I.
Stephen Gould, Newport, R.I.
Abraham Shearman jun^r New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Our late beloved friend William Almy, heretofore one of our Correspondents, has deceased, since our last Yearly Meeting.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistles, both of the last & present year, were received and read in this our annual assembly; and we can truly say, that our minds have been seldom more edified and strengthened in receiving the brotherly salutation and counsel of our dear absent friends, than in reading, at the present time, your Epistles, and those from England and elsewhere; and we are renewedly confirmed, that such an intercourse, under the guidance of that Wisdom which is from above, will continue to be a means of safety and consolation to the body at large.

When Christian love prevails among brethren, how interesting, the privilege though distant, of speaking one to another: and if encouragements may be derived by an interchange of feeling and of sentiments between individuals, so we have been assured by the perusal of these Epistles, that the Church in its different allotments, may be edified in love; may be strengthened in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bond of peace. And we are sure that you are sensible dear friends, of the mutuality we have as a people, of unveiling ourselves of every advantage which the blessed Head of the Church has provided for us.

The present seems a time of great concern, if not of fearfulness to the faithful in our Israel; and the exercise of humility & low-liness, and of being gathered to the true Shepherd, were perhaps never more needful, or that of becoming more and more banded together in Him, and of being baptized by the one Spirit into the one Body, and of watching unto prayer, and we believe there are both among us and you, those who can adopt the request of the Apostle to one of the churches formerly, "Brethren, pray for us." These have been made sensible by a degree of good experience that our preservation is not of man nor of the will of the flesh, but of God. That except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

We can respond with a lively interest to your expressions, "that you feel an earnest solicitude for the preservation of the members of our religious society on its ancient foundation, and that they may maintain with unreserved dedication, those precious testimonies in the support of which, our early predecessors endured much tribulation & suffering." Testimonies which are precious, because they originated in primitive

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Christianity. because they were thus revived and obtained for us through a great fight of affliction, and through suffering; and not the less precious because that some of the most important among them, are yet but rare testimonies among the different sects of Christian profession. Testimonies which we most surely believe that Christ Jesus, the great Head of the Church, has designed for the whole household of Believers in the final accomplishment of His will and purpose, when righteousness shall spread from sea to sea, & from the rivers to the ends of the earth.

Let us not then, dear Brethren, despair of success in the Lord's own time, because that the doctrines of that living Faith which embraced the whole work of Christian redemption, is not yet acknowledged in its fulness by all that name the name of Christ. nor yet because that divers testimonies in relation to the nature & acceptable worship a living Ministry, and the immediate manifestations of the will of God through his only begotten Son, to all that wait upon Him, yet remain to be peculiar to us as a people. But let us take courage and be faithful, however small the number among the thousands of Israel, who have, as well by faith and obedience, as by a living influence, made these testimonies their own. We desire gratefully to acknowledge that God has been mindful to us, and has not withheld any needful help; and we are solicitous both for ourselves and for you, that we may be alive to the good cause, and to the responsibility which rests upon us, for the holding fast the profession of our faith without wavering, both individually and collectively: and that we let no man take our crown; that neither principalities nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor heights, nor depths, nor any other creature, may be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus.

We are your friends & brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk.

P. S.

Our minds have been renewedly quickened at this time to the importance of faithfully maintaining sound Christian doctrine, as declared in the Holy Scriptures, and always believed & professed by our religious Society; and we have thought best again to issue a declaration to our members, embracing some of these important doctrines. A copy of which will accompany this, directed to your Meeting.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends

Your acceptable Epistle of fourth month last, has been received and read at this time in our Meeting. We rejoice that we are still permitted, as brethren of the same "household of faith," to salute you in the love and fellowship of the Gospel. May this continue to be our experience, and may that feeling of brotherly kindness which fills the hearts of our distant Friends, be increasingly cherished. It was that love which is the distinguishing badge of true discipleship; that adorn faith with such purity and excellence in the character of our primitive Friends.

1836. to unite them together as a common band of sympathy, and descended upon the heart prepared as the dew of Hermon - And dear Friends, we desire that it's holy and consoling influence may ever continue to prevail in our hearts — sanctifying us to its gentle operations, and rendering more & more sweet our heavenly communion. It is only as our feelings become warmed & expanded by this love, that our epistolary communications partake of that life which tends to our edification.

Our minds have been renewedly awakened at this time to the importance of faithfully maintaining sound Christian doctrine as declared in the Holy Scriptures and always believed & professed by our religious Society; and we have thought best again to issue a declaration to our members embracing some of these important doctrines. A copy of which will accompany this, directed to your Meeting.

We notice with renewed satisfaction your attention to several subjects of a deeply interesting nature; and we trust that we have been permitted in some degree to participate in that sympathy for our injured & distressed fellow creatures which has been manifested on your part. The situation of the scattered remnants of the aborigines of our country, still claim from us the exercise of benevolent Christian feeling; and we rejoice to observe in your late communication to us, that you have been instrumental in extending aid and instruction to that portion of them which are under the care of your Meeting. While avarice and oppression seem eager to grasp the possessions of the Indians and force them from the land of their fathers let us, if possible renew our exertions for their welfare with increased zeal. Let us cherish that spirit of active christian benevolence towards them, which delights in conferring happiness upon the humblest of the human family. Our Committee on Indian concerns have made an interesting report in relation to the Penobscot tribe, and the advancement which they appear to be making in the arts and comforts of civilized life, since the care of this Meeting had been extended to them, encourages us to continue our efforts for their further improvement. About thirty houses have been erected; and their attention to agricultural pursuits continues to increase.

The condition of our oppressed coloured brethren in this country is felt by us to be an object of painful contemplation and of fervent interest. To remove the barriers of prejudice to which they are subjected, to raise them from a state of physical wretchedness & mental degradation, and to restore to them their civil, moral and religious rights, affords an extended field for benevolent exertion as well as for the exercise of generous philanthropy. And although our path may be surrounded by difficulties - although the sky may be darkened by clouds may we nevertheless endeavour to be governed in reference to this concern by uprightness of heart, and unwavering constancy to those principles of moral and religious duty which have ever distinguished our society. Our labours if undertaken in a right spirit, and urged with the patience and firmness of devoted Christians, may at last prove like "Bread cast upon the waters, which will be found after many days." We desire that no lukewarmness, no motives of worldly selfishness may ever prevent us from a zealous and faithful discharge of our duty. But seeking that wisdom which is profitable to direct, may we stand ready to plead the cause of the injured and oppressed, when we find ourselves called upon so to do.

A lively, and we believe increasing, concern to promote the

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our [illegible] and religious education of our youth would among us. The establishment of select or family schools, so far as practicable, contin ues to claim our attention; and the day, we hope, is not far distant, when this important concern will be happily witnessed in its practical results. The report of our Boarding School Committee gives us reason to believe that the Institution is becoming increasingly useful in its influence.

Our Meeting at the present time has been large, and the various concerns of the Society have been transacted with much unanimity of feeling.

With love, we remain,

Your Friends & Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To New York.

Dear Friends.

In the circulation of that love which proceeds from the inward reception of the Gospel of Christ, true brotherly freedom is felt, and the welfare of the Church is brought near the best feelings of the heart. We trust that it is under a degree of the influence of this love, that we now salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last, which has been read at this time to our satisfaction. We cordially respond to the sentiment contained therein, that we are bound together with you in the bonds of Gospel fellowship; and that we live under the benign influence of the same holy religion. And while we would wish to be found living in that purity and holiness without which no man can see the Lord, we would desire, with you, ever to keep in view the coming and offices of our Saviour, in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Not a simple assent to the historical account of the coming and sufferings of Christ, but a true and living Faith in him, through which we are enabled to avail ourselves of the benefits of his coming, sufferings and come to know a practical application thereof to our own hearts, whereby we are made partakers of a blessed hope of life everlasting. It is under a humbling sense of the unutterable mercies of our heavenly Father in making this provision for man, that our hearts are filled with love towards him, and it becomes our delight to do the law of the Lord. In proportion as this blessed principle is promoted and cherished, we shall be made to feel that love one towards another, which is declared in the sacred volume to be the badge of true discipleship; and under the cementing influence thereof, the bond of unity and Christian fellowship will be strengthened, and we shall become each others helpers and joy in the Lord. Under the operation of this love, the testimonies of our Society, which we believe originated in the Spirit of the Gospels, would become exceedingly precious, and the heart being purified thro' the sanctifying operations of the Spirit of Christ, we should be found bearing the cross, despising the shame, and walking in that true humility which becometh the devoted followers of a crucified Saviour. The deficiencies in the maintenance of our Christian testimonies would then be removed, and our Society would be found coming up to that exalted station, which we believe it has ever been the design of a gracious Providence it should occupy.

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[illegible] faithfully maintaining sound Christian doctrines, as declared in the Holy Scriptures, and always believed & professed by our religious Society, and we have thought best again to issue a declaration to our members embracing some of these important doctrines. A copy of which will accompany this, directed to your Meeting.

The sufferings of that class of our fellow beings which are held in bondage have been again brought to our remembrance and we have desired that we may be found steadily and firmly maintaining our well known testimony against the evils of slavery. And while we would earnestly hope that we may loose no opportunity of lending our aid in the adoption of sound Christian measures, we would sincerely crave, that in all our movements in the cause, we may be governed by that wisdom which is profitable to direct. And may we not believe that as this is adhered to, the time will yet come when the hearts of their oppressors will be increasingly inclined to humanity & justice, and this load of guilt be removed from our land.

With the salutation of love, we remain

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting. by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

We acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable epistle of the 26th month last, the perusal of which has afforded us a renewed evidence, that an interchange of epistolary communication, between both sexes of the same family, tends to unite and cement together in the bonds of Christian fellowship, and often proves a source of mutual consolation and encouragement to the humble hearted travelled Zionward.

We feel bound to acknowledge, that the great Head of the Church has again at this time been mercifully pleased to permit us needfully to witness his life giving presence to be with us in the transaction of the various concerns which have come before us, which have resulted in much harmony and brotherly love. We are sensible that the present day is deeply interesting to all who are enlisted in the dear Redeemer's cause — the promulgation of truth and righteousness upon the earth and we earnestly desire that Friends, every where may be concerned carefully to watch against a spirit of speculation, which is abroad in the land, calculated to undermine & lay waste the precious testimonies which are committed to us to maintain.

It has been matter of deep interest and satisfaction to us, to notice the tender care and concern manifested in your communication for the Christian instruction and civilization of the oppressed Indians, whose situation loudly calls for the exercise of our Christian charities, believing, as we do, that oppression and cruelty as exercised over many of the inhabitants of our land, has its origin in the power of darkness. It highly behooves us, who profess to be the followers of him who proclaimed peace on earth and good will to men, to use our endeavours, through the aid and assistance of that Wisdom, which is "first pure then peaceable gentle, and easy to be intreated," to undo the heavy burdens, to break every yoke, and to "let the oppressed go free." We tenderly sympathize with you in your trials on this account, and have to believe, that, as you look singly unto Him and unitedly depend for direction in all your movements upon

1836. this momentous subject that your humble endeavours will be mercifully crowned with success.

Our Meeting, at this time, has been large; and we have been encouraged in beholding so numerous an attendance of our youth, many of whom by their deportment evince that they feel an interest in the concerns of our Society, and are engaged to maintain its testimonies. (precious!) Much lowly counsel and advice has been imparted to us, during the several sittings of the Meeting, and a lively interest has been manifested for our absent brethren, that they might be enabled to participate in the exercise which has prevailed.

In conclusion we earnestly desire that we may be individually concerned, so to apply our hearts to wisdom, that we may be enabled through the assistance of that grace which cometh by Jesus Christ, to put up our petitions, day by day, with acceptance, that we may be preserved on the sure foundation, Christ Jesus.

With the salutation of unfeigned love, we are

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, junr. Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

We have again been permitted to meet in our annual assembly, and have had renewed cause to believe, that through unmerited mercy, we are still objects of our heavenly Father's tender regard, in that he has in our several sittings, given us sensibly to feel the circulation of that cementing love that binds together in Christian fellowship, and has enabled us to transact the important concerns of the Church in harmony. ~~and love~~ Under an humbling sense of these favours we have renewed cause to commemorate his great goodness, and to adopt the language of the Apostle, to thank God & take courage.

This Meeting has been large, and an unusual portion of the middle aged and the precious youth are in attendance, whose interesting and sober deportment evince that the Lord is preparing many of them for usefulness in his Church, so that when our aged friends, who have long borne the heat and burthen of the day, shall be removed from works to rewards, there may be a succession of standard bearers; and we have desired that this class, in an especial manner, in every situation of life, may be willing to endure the purifying operations of the Lord's fire which is in Zion, and of his furnace which is in Jerusalem, until He shall purge away all the dross and the tin and the reprobate silver, and bring them forth pure in heart, rich in faith, and sound in the doctrines of our holey Redeemer. — In this state of necessary refinement, we shall not only feel bound to the faith and doctrines of Christ; but we shall also feel those precious testimonies which distinguished our worthy forefathers, and which had their undoubted foundation in the unchanging spirit of the Gospel, to be dear to our hearts.

In reading your acceptable Epistle of 5th mo. last, we were introduced into a feeling of sympathy for you; and although your numbers scatter so [illegible] we remember that where two or three are gathered

in the name of Christ, he declared he would be in the midst. So, dear Friends, be not discouraged because your number is small, and in a land of slavery, for the Lord's arm is not shortened, that it cannot save, neither is his ear grown heavy that it cannot hear the cries of the poor and distressed & the needy; and although it may seem but little that we can do for the relief & the oppressed in our country, yet we would affectionately exhort and encourage all our members to continue in a faithful discharge of our duty as Christians in the cause of the much injured & degraded Africans, in diligence of heart as unto God that in the great day of account we may be found clear of the blood of all men and receive the reward of faithful stewards.

Our minds have been renewedly awakened at this time to the importance of faithfully maintaining sound Christian doctrine as declared in the Holy Scriptures, and always believed and professed by our religious society, and we have thought best again to issue a declaration to our members, on some of those important doctrines. A copy of which will accompany this.

We have with us at this time, several Friends from other Yearly Meetings, and much salutary advice and good counsel has been received, and we desire it may, like bread cast upon the waters, ~~that it shall~~ be found after many days, and be a means of removing the deficiencies apparent amongst us. With the salutation of love, we conclude, and remain your Friends and Brethren.

Signed, by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk.

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

We have again been permitted to meet in this our annual assembly, and to experience in good degree a comforting evidence of the overshadowings of heavenly regard, under a feeling sense of which we have had renewedly to believe, that He who anciently manifested himself, for the deliverance and protection of those who put their trust in Him alone, is still mindful of his family & flock, those who feel that they have no might nor strength of their own, but whose dependence is on the mercy of God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Your acceptable Epistle of 11th mo. last, has been read at this time and we cordially respond to the sentiment therein contained, that wherever situated, we are indeed one people, and so long as we mind the same thing and walk by the same rule, we shall be made to drink of the same cup and be baptized with the same baptism into the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace.

We have also received satisfactory communications from the Yearly Meetings of Friends in London and Ireland and each of those on this Continent.

In adverting to the state of Society as brought into view by the accounts from our subordinate Meetings, deficiencies are still apparent and fervent desires have been excited that Friends might be engaged in the honest discharge of individual duty, labouring faithfully and affectionately for their removal, and for the upright maintenance of the precious testimonies, which our early Friends were called upon to bear.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been favoured with the company of many of our younger members,

1836. ...s a few of whom are giving evidence, by their becoming deportment, and the interest they manifest in the concerns of Society, that they are submitting to the forming hand of Him who can alone qualify for useful service in the Church.

We noticed with satisfaction and desires for your success, the information of the progress you are making in preparation for the establishment of a Boarding School. The report of the Committee who have in charge the superintendence of our Seneca Boarding School has been received, in which we are informed that the Institution is still giving evidence of usefulness to the children and youth of our Society, and the minds of Friends have at the time been seriously exercised with much feeling on the interesting subject of the guarded literary and religious education of the young, in a way dictating that it may be an inducement to us to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, that they may, under the qualifying influence of the Spirit of Truth, have their minds be prepared to do their day's work in the earth, when many who are now faithful labourers in the work of their divine Lord and Master shall have passed from works to rewards. Your account of the progress you have made in removing the people of colour under your care, to free governments, was comfortable to us. We believe, that as we abide under the influence of the love of God, we shall experience its consequent effect, love to man; And in the exercise of this precious feeling, we shall not be weary in our labours of love on behalf of this degraded portion of the human family.

We have been favoured to transact the important concerns, which have claimed our attention at this time in much harmony and brotherly love, under a grateful sense of which we fervently desire, both for ourselves and our dear absent brethren, the blessing of preservation.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting
by Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Being again assembled at our annual Meeting, you have been tenderly brought to our remembrance; both by the continuance of our usual christian exercise and, we trust by a feeling of Gospel love, that binds us to embrace our brethren, wherever situated, in a participation of this same glorious hope, regardless of the accompanying time. We believe with you, that it is a law that loudly calls upon us to move in pure principle, and to seek this with humble and prayerful hearts to become settled and established in the everlasting truth. We can but frequently remember that our Society has ever acknowledged and firmly believed in these immutable truths, that there is one God and Father of all, of whom are all things; that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things were made, who was glorified with the Father before the world was, who is God, blessed forever, and that there is one Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father and the Son; the leader, sanctifier and comforter of his people; and that these three are one. They have ever held, in the plain signification of the term, the real manhood as well as the

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Divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; that the Word which was in the beginning with God and was God, was made flesh and dwelt amongst us. They believed that man in a state of nature is fallen depraved and dead. that we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that it is solely through Him now in Christ Jesus that we are brought into a capacity to be reconciled to him, receiving the remission of our sins that are past, through the one propitiatory offering of the Lamb of God. They believed that it is by the immediate power of the Spirit we are convinced of sin and led to deep repentance for it and that it is only by the baptisms of the Spirit that we can experience the purification of our hearts, or be brought to a saving faith in Christ, or justification by faith; and by his power alone that we are enabled to do any good work. They did most firmly believe and earnestly promulgate the precious doctrine of the immediate perceptible teachings of the Holy Spirit, and that as followed it would lead and guide into all truth; and they believed that to those who submit to this teaching, the testimony of the Prophet will be fulfilled: "This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their mind and write them in their hearts, and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people; and they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying know the Lord, for all shall know me from the least to the greatest." These truths we desire that as a Society we may continue most reverently to receive, and that individually, under a realizing sense of our dependence upon God, we may put up our prayers unto Him that in the obedience of faith we may be enabled to do his will and to bring forth fruits to his praise.

Dear Friends may we be guarded on all hands, and joyfully embrace the Gospel in its simplicity and in its fulness. Thus we thankfully believe it was held by our forefathers when first gathered as a distinct people, and thus only will it prove availing to our salvation.

The support of our various religious testimonies has been a subject of deep concern to us at this time, and we have been led earnestly to desire, that the importance of their maintenance may be realized by all our individual members; that they may not be placed in any on the ground of expediency; but be viewed as a part of our Christian duty, remembering the sufferings that were endured by our forefathers in their support.

We are glad to perceive that you continue your exertions in aid of a tribe of the Indians. We also continue to extend some care to the Penobscot tribe within our limits, and by the report of our Committee this year we feel encouraged still to persevere in this work.

With the salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting by

Abraham Sherman, jun. Clerk.

To Indiana

Dear Friends.

Your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last, is at this time received. These testimonials of brotherly love continue to be regarded ~~to be regarded~~ by us as an important means of strengthening & drawing closer the bonds of union which bind us together as one Society; af-

1836. feeling, is ordained through which we may communicate to each other our exercises, and thus be made "one another's helpers in the Lord."

We are confirmed in believing that there are those among us, as well as with you, who are daily concerned for the preservation of each portion of the Christian church on its original ground — "on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building, fitly framed together, groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord." And we think it proper to keep in view, that our predecessors in religious profession had no new truths to promulgate; and had nothing to add to the faith once delivered to the saints; yet we believe that they were especially qualified for the services assigned them by the Head of the Church, through the powerful enlightening influences of divine grace, and that through submission to Him in the obedience of faith, they became chosen instruments in the Divine hand, for reviving the doctrines of primitive Christianity in their original purity & simplicity. An enlarged view of christian doctrine led them to the adoption of those principles and testimonies, which distinguish us, as a body, from other denominations of professing Christians. We, at this time, have felt a renewed concern, that none of these testimonies may fall to the ground through our unfaithfulness; but that we may be invited to increased vigilance, in calling to remembrance the cruel persecutions and sufferings through which the precious inheritance has been transmitted to us. Truly, it may be said, — "Other men have labored, and we have entered into their labours."

The present, it appears to us, is a time which loudly calls for individual faithfulness. For close self examination. For watchfulness and prayer; that we may know well the ground whereon we stand, and that we may not be moved away from the hope of the Gospel."

We desire, that we may cherish a reverent sense of the importance of the blessed doctrine of the influences of the Holy Spirit, in all its fulness as set forth by Christ and his Apostles, and as ever acknowledged by our Society; and that we may become practically acquainted with His operations on our minds, convicting us of sin, enlightening our understandings, regulating our affections, & sanctifying our hearts, that we may come to an experimental acquaintance with the truth of the declaration of our blessed Lord, — "When he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth." As we yield obedience to his teachings, our hearts will be prepared, and our understandings will be opened to receive, in child like simplicity, the truth, as it is in Jesus. — The Holy Scriptures will then be unreservedly valued, as the appointed means of conveying to us a knowledge of the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the flesh, and of his sufferings and death for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world — of his resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father, where he ever liveth to make intercession for us. The truths of the Gospel will become exceedingly precious to us, and under a humbling sense of our unworthiness, and of our inability, by any merits of our own, to obtain salvation, our sole dependence will be on the unmerited mercy of God, in Jesus Christ our Lord. — "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast."

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We are truly contemplate the universal corruption of our Nature and that our hearts will ever be ungrateful and cold towards Him and our delight will be to do his will. "We love him because he first loved us." In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." "Beloved if God so loved us we ought also to love one another." As love to God predominates in our hearts, love to our fellow men will also prevail, and as we are favoured to keep under its cementing influence, we shall be strengthened harmoniously to labour together for the maintenance of the various branches of our Christian testimonies, shewing forth to the world that "one is our Master, even Christ, and all we are brethren."

It is gratifying to observe that your attention is still turned to the improvement of the condition of the Indians and of our oppressed fellow beings of the African race. We ardently desire your encouragement in these labours of love, believing that He whose ear is open to the cries of the oppressed, will cause a blessing to attend them. Our Committee on Indian concerns have at this time presented a report, which encourages us to believe that the condition of the feeble remnant towards whom our care has extended is gradually improving.

The subject of the instruction of our youth has again come before us with much interest, and we have issued advices tending to impress the minds of Friends the importance of a guarded Education.

We have gratefully to commemorate the continued goodness of our Holy Head in that he has been pleased measurably to own us by his presence, enabling us to dispose of the various important concerns that have come before us, in much harmony & brotherly love.

With a salutation of love, we are, Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

[N.B. The paragraph marked A. in the Epistle to London should be added to the preceding, and other Epistles, in which it is not inserted.]

Names of School Committee, 1830. See page 5.—

Moses Brown,
Rowland Green,
Nicholas Congdon,
Elijah Shove,
John Wilbur,
William Jenkins,
Walter Allen,
Jacob Mosher,
James Tucker,
Benjamin Hazard,
David Sheffield jun.
Francis Tabor,
Benjamin Mott,
Jonathan Davis,
John Brown,
William Cole,
Thomas Rowland,
Stephen A. Chase,
Rowland Rathbun,
John Osborne,

Daniel Clapp,
Abr.m Shearman jun.
Thomas Jones,
Clark Shove,
Thomas Fry, Bolton
Silas Earle,
Moses Varnum,
Thomas Anthony,
William Reynolds,
Samuel B. Jolley,
Daniel Johnson,
Isaac Rowland,
Abraham Tucker,
Moses Shove,
Jonathan Nichols,
William Mitchell,
William Jones Jun.
Joseph Davis,
Isaac R. Gifford,
Samuel Wing,

Moses Aldrich,
Jonathan Congdon,
Arnold Congdon,
James N. Fry,
Samuel Mowry,
John Meader,
David Shove,
Elijah Pope,
Hanson Wing,
Wm. A. Robinson,
Duty B. Aldrich,
Samuel Wing,
Ebenezer Wing,
Abraham Potter,
Abijah Johnson,
John Macomber,
Nathan Wood Lym
Benjamin Fry,
William Baker 2d
Joseph Rowland,

Silas Bailey, Farm.
Moses H. Brooks
Joseph D. Hovey
Josiah Jones
John Howland, jun
Perez Cook
Allen Wing
Enoch Reed,
Daniel Carr 4th
John D. Lang
Jethro A. Mitchell,
Robert Brown
John M. Earl,
John R. Davis
Moses Starkey
Stephen Gould,
Abraham Barker,
of Dartmouth

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At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, commencing with public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-day, the 11th, and at Easton, for Discipline, on Second-day, the 12th of Sixth month, 1837.

Accounts being received from our several Quarterly Meetings, that Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are:— For Rhode Island, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Edmund Chase, Obadiah Earl, Thomas Howland, John Wilbur. — Salem, Jonathan Richards, Moses H. Brooks, David Ordway, Samuel Bowne, Edward Jones, Esther Newhall, Nathan G. Chase, jun.r Enoch Gove. — Smithfield, Francis Jenckes, Mathias Gifford, George Howland, James Jenckes, Moses F. Rogers, Benjamin Gardner. — Falmouth, William Robbins, Samuel Jones, William Forsyth, Elisha Jones, Stephen Hall, Caleb Hawkes, Joshua Douglas. — Smithfield, John Milton Earle, Thomas Fry, Peleg Aldrich, Arnold Aldrich 2d, Thomas Grover. — Vassalborough, Cornelius Douglas, Eli Jones, William Fish, Daniel Jenckes, Edmund Coles, Edmund Whitehouse, Joseph Taylor. — Dover, — Joseph Varney of Wolfboro, John D. Lang, Joshua Meader, William Hill.

Whose names being called, they were all present except one from Salem.

Having at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our friends William Reynard, of Somerset Monthly Meeting, Ohio, — William Evans, of Southern District Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia, — Joseph Hoag, of Ferrisburg M. M. Verm.t — Isaac Thorn, of Nine Partners, and Joseph Tripp, of Hector M.o M.g New-York, — satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with their ministry and present religious engagements, were presented and read.

We have also the acceptable company of our friends Thomas Hall, of Mad River M.o M.g Ohio, companion to Wm Reynard; Joseph Snowden, of Philadelphia, companion to Wm Evans; Caspar Wistar, of Salem, New Jersey, companion to Rebecca Hubbs; and William Rose and his wife, Hannah C. Rose, of New M.o M.g New York, companions to Lydia Hallock — who produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with those engagements.

The London general Epistle of last year; an Epistle from the same Meeting, directed to this, in the usual course of correspondence; and another on the subject of Slavery — with Epistles from the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, with the exception of North-Carolina, — were received and read.

Thomas Jones, Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene, Moses H. Beede, John Wilbur, Thomas Fry, E. Dodson, Daniel Jenckes, John D. Lang, John Milton Earle, William Bassett, Thomas Anthony, Samuel B. Tobey, William Jenkins, Arnold Congdon, John Osborne, Samuel Boyce, John Meader,

1837. Isaac R. Gifford, Jonathan L. Scott, and William C. Taber, were appointed to take said Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, to prepare answers or communications to those, and the other Yearly Meetings with which we have usually corresponded, and present them at a future sitting or sittings.

It appears, by the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings that they have paid or have given direction for the payment to our Treasurer of their respective proportions of Stock, as required last year. William Reynolds, Nathan Pond, George Howland, Samuel Jones, Thomas Fry, Caleb Nichols and Joshua Meader were appointed a Committee to examine & settle the Treasurer's accounts; — propose such sum as they may consider it necessary for this Meeting to raise, for the service of the ensuing year — and also to propose a Treasurer. To report at a future sitting.

On the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings, we are informed, that Rhode Island has united with Greenwich M°. Meeting in the appointment of Daniel Anthony to the station of an Elder — that Salem has united with Scituate M°. Meeting in the appointment of Susan L. Brown; and with Salem M°. Meeting in the appointment of Rachel B. Holden to the same station — that Sandwich has united with Pembroke M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Sarah Keene — that Portsmouth has united with Dartmouth M°. Meeting, in the appointment of Samuel Jones to the station of an Elder; and with the same M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Nathan Douglas — that Smithfield has united with Smithfield M°. Meeting, in the appointment of Catherine Comstock to the station of an Elder — that Wassalboro' has united with Vienna M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Sybil Jones; with Wassalboro' M°. Meeting in the appointment of Jacob Nutbridge to the station of an Elder; and with Leeds M°. Meeting in the appointment of Abigail Farr to the same station — that Dover has united with Sandwich M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Comfort Hoag; and with Dover M°. Meeting in dismissing Eli Varney from the station of an Elder.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

Thomas Howland, on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting, that they had consulted together, and had concluded to propose Abraham Sherman, jun. for Clerk; and John Osborn for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, which being united with, they were appointed to those services, for the year ensuing.

An acceptable Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina, not present this morning, was now produced, and read.

The annual Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read, and the attention given by the Committee to the concerns of the Institution placed under their care was satisfactory to this Meeting. The subject of the admission into the School, of Children who are not members, having been brought impressively under consideration, was freely discussed; and much

1837. concern was expressed, that great care may be exercised by the Committee, in regard to such admissions.

The following is the Report of the Committee, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee Report, That they have endeavored to discharge the duties confided to them by the Yearly Meeting during the past year, in giving their attention to the various concerns of the Institution.

Meetings have been regularly continued, and harmony has prevailed. The average number of Scholars has been one hundred and thirty four. At the present time there are twelve scholars in the Institution who are not members of our religious society, all but two of whom ~~of whom~~ are connected with Friends. Our friends Enoch and Lydia Reed have continued, acceptably, to act as Superintendents, during the past year, but desiring to be relieved, we have at this time agreed with our friends Rowland & Alice Rathbun, to serve the Institution in that capacity; who are expected to enter upon this service the first of next month. Moses B. Lockwood, Jonathan L. Slocum, Samuel Austin and Lewis Taber, are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Mary Ann Barker, Caroline Aldrich, and Elizabeth H. Osborne, in the Girls'. George F. Reed is employed as Instructor in the Languages. Isaac Hathaway continues to exercise a care over the Boys out of school hours, and to act as book-keeper, & Freelove Greene is employed as a care taker of the Girls, and has charge of the sewing School.

The Treasurer's and Superintendent's accounts have been settled, by which it appears that the Institution is in debt, $5158, 55 cts. This debt may be ascribed, principally, to the high prices, for the past two years, of the various articles of consumption required in the family, and to there not having been so large a number, as heretofore, admitted into the School, who were not members of our Society, the terms of whose admission are higher than for members. In order to meet the present deficiency, we have requested the Treasurer of the School Fund to effect a loan of five thousand dollars. It appears to the Committee, that some means must be adopted to liquidate this debt, and to meet the probable current expenses of the School for the future, we propose for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, that Books and Stationary, be charged to the Scholars, at their cost at wholesale; that the privilege granted Monthly Meetings be suspended: that the allowance for travelling expenses to children who come from the three eastern Quarterly Meetings, be reduced from six to four cents per mile; and that the general price of board and tuition, for members of this Yearly Meeting, be raised to seventeen dollars per quarter, payable as heretofore, in advance — to commence on the first of eighth month next. By adopting this arrangement, with the probable reduction of cost in the articles of consumption, it is believed that the expenses of the School may be met, and the debt gradually discharged. The amount of funds belonging to the Institution, for the schooling of poor children, including the legacy for that purpose by our late friend Moses Brown, is $16650.

Dr. Yearly Meeting Boarding School in account with Enoch Breed, Superintendent, Cr.

1837 4th mo 28	To amt of Expenditures since 4th mo 29 1836 viz			1836 4th mo 29	By balance from former account	$ 201	22
	For Repairs Improvements and Furniture	$ 1344.75		1837 4th mo 28	" Amt received from the Treasurer of the School Fund	6328	71
	" Books and Stationary	806.91			" Amt received for board and tuition of Scholars and for advances to them	8679	29
	" Salaries	4061.60			" Amt received from visitors & for articles sold	89	70
	" Labour	1787.88			" Amt due sundry persons for accounts rendered	1844.39	
	" Fuel viz Wood 1191.32 Anthracite Coal 489.17 Charcoal 89.83 =	1770.32			" Amt due to Officers of Institution	1331.57	
	" Flour	2107.73			" Amt due for Labour	269.95	3445 85
	" Butter	1682.76			" Balance carried forward	19	29
	" Cheese	117.01					
	" Land	33.48					
	" Meat	939.86					
	" Fish	84. —					
	" Hay Grain and Meal	932.52					
	" Bread	354.40					
	" Sugar	383.49					
	" Molasses	237.86					
	" Tea	61.76					
	" Coffee	108.81					
	" Lamp Oil	272.36					
	" Vegetables	216.79					
	" Medicines	59.90					
	" Soap and Soda	155.81					
	" Post Office	88.56					
	" Articles furnished Scholars	702. —					
	" Incidental Expenses, including travelling fees	463.50	$ 18.764 06				
	To Balance		19 29			$ 18.764	06

Errors Excepted
(Signed) Enoch Breed
Providence 4th mo 28 1837 --

Amount of the balance due the Treasurer $ 2173.70
" " " outstanding debts 3445.85
5619.55

Amt due the Institution and uncollected Bank dividends to be deducted 460.90
Amt of debts -- $ 5158.65

The personal property of the Institution at the present time as appears by Inventory is $ 6826.32.—

1837 It is proposed that this should be kept, by the Treasurer, distinct from the general funds; and the income of it will support twelve children, six months each, at seventeen dollars per quarter.

We have continued to appoint Committees to examine the School semi-annually, who on these occasions, have devoted several days to the service. By their reports we are informed, that the general appearance of the School has been such as to give them much satisfaction. The scholars have given encouraging evidence of attention to their various studies, in most of which they have exhibited a proficiency alike creditable to them and to their Teachers. There has been an agreeable manifestation of a conformity, on the part of the children, to the advice of Friends in respect to plainness.

In adverting to the past year we feel bound to acknowledge the preservation that has been mercifully extended to us, under which, we trust, the School has been continued in good degree, in accordance with the intentions of the Yearly Meeting in its establishment.

On behalf of the Committee,

Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

Boarding School, 5th of 5th Mo. 1837.

Thomas Jones, Thomas Moreland, Caleb Cresson, Benj. Gardner, Isaac Carter, Levi Lowe, Reuben Harlan, jun., Arnold Aldrich, 2d, Caleb Paine, Ethan Foster, Elijah Clement, Stanley M. Hoag, Enoch Marriott, William Gill, Edmund Chase, Peter Morrill, Daniel Johnson, George Moreland, Oliver Chase, Seth Davis, Thomas Evans, Jno Pitney, John Osborne, William Jenkins, Joshua Marden, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Elisha Jones, and Thomas Fry, of Boston, were appointed a Committee to consider the several propositions contained in the preceding report of the Boarding School Committee — and report at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 13th. — Met according to adjournt. The names of the Representatives being called, they were present, as yesterday morning, except one, whose attendance we are informed, is prevented by bodily indisposition.

Having at this Meeting, the acceptable company of our Friend Rebecca Hubbs, of the Monthly Meeting of Salem, and Susanna R. Smith, of Burlington, New Jersey: Huldah Hoag and Abigail R. Hoag, of Farmington, Vermont; Anna M. Thorn, of Nine-partners, Lydia Hallock, of Peru, and Elizabeth Titus, jr., of Hector, New York: — also of Martha Abbot, of Salem, companion to Rebecca Hubbs, and Ann Bishop, of Upper Springfield, New Jersey, companion to Susanna R. Smith — satisfactory testimonials of the unity of their Friends, with their present engagements, were read at this sitting.

The subject of the admission of Children into Friends' Boarding School, having been again opened — it was referred to the Committee appointed yesterday afternoon, on the report of the School Committee, to introduce, at a future sitting, such minute in relation thereto, as in their judgment, would meet the views of Friends.

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The Meeting then proceeded to a consideration of the state of Society, as brot before us by the reading of the Queries and Answers to them from the several Quarterly Meetings, which were gone thro' with. On the state of the Society, as thus opened, many instructive and feeling remarks were offered for our consideration, and an ardent solicitude was expressed, for the right & faithful administration of the Discipline, in the spirit of meekness and wisdom; and that Friends, elders, as well as Overseers, may seek for that qualification, which will enable them to labour, in the spirit of love, for the restoration of those who are becoming indifferent to the precious testimonies and principles of our Society, or are deviating from the paths of moral rectitude — and, if these faithful and judicious labours prove ineffectual, clothe them with ability to pass judgment in the authority of Truth.

The following summary is meant to embrace the substance of the Answers received. — viz!

1. With exceptions, in reference to a few small Meetings, all our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended — yet a want of engagement in the discharge of this important duty is apparent with some; and particularly as it relates to the attendance of mid week Meetings, some of which it appears have been much neglected. The hour is generally observed; while with a few, as stated in one of the accounts, there is an obvious deficiency. A few instances of Marketing continue to be noticed. Of other unbecoming behaviour, mostly clear. In connection with these deficiencies, an extension of care is noticed in several of the accts.

2. Love and unity appear to be in a good degree maintained by most Friends, tho' not without some exceptions. — Detraction is generally guarded against, but not by all our members. Care is taken to end differences but it appears from one of the accounts, that in one Monthly Meeting, differences now exist. —

3. There appears to be a good degree of care with most Friends, to bring up those under their direction in plainness, to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupt conversation, & to be good examples; still many deviations are observable, particularly as regards plainness. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends' families.

4. Friends are, with few exceptions, careful to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes and mostly careful to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort. In cases requiring it, care appears to have been generally taken. Moderation and temperance appear to be observed on the occasions referred to.

5. Care appears to have been generally taken, as respects the several Instructions of this query — with the exception, that a few children have been placed out from among Friends.

6. Friends are mostly careful that proceedings with respect to marriage, be conformable to Discipline; yet a few instances of deviation are noticed in some of the accounts received.

7. Our testimonies in these respects appear to be generally maintained. Yet a few exceptions of a military nature are reported to, which are under the care of Friends, where they have occurred. One instance of not bearing a faithful testimony against the payment of priests' wages is also noticed, as under care; and another of the answers notices as an exception, the attendance by young persons, of the meetings of other societies.

8. —

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8. We believe most Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts; while much want of timely care in these respects is manifest in some. A few instances of failure in the payment of just debts, are under notice.

9. Generally careful as to records, with some exceptions as to births and deaths. A few instances of removal without certificate are under notice.

10. Care is taken to deal with offenders in a good degree of unity, though not in some cases as seasonably as we could desire, and are sensible that there are some cases where care is much needed. Endeavours are used to place judgment where necessary, according to Discipline.

Adjourned to the 4th hours this afternoon.

Afternoon.— Friends again met.

Extracts from the last Will and Testament of our late beloved friend Moses Brown, deceased, embracing the 33d, 36th and 37th items of said Will, having been presented by William Jenkins, one of the Executors therein named, — We appoint, Moses Varnum, Thomas Arnold, Jonathan Congdon, Stephen Gould, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, to receive from the said Executors the Note of Hand and Mortgage for fifteen thousand dollars, therein described, bequeathed to this Meeting for the use of the Boarding School at Providence; to execute to them any necessary discharge on behalf of this Meeting, and when received, to deliver said Note and Mortgage to the Trustees of the School Fund, taking his receipt therefor; and report to this Meeting next year. [For the items of Moses Brown's Will above referred to, see pages 45, 46, of this book.]

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were read; and the attention thereby manifested to the interesting concerns that have been brought under their consideration, was satisfactory to this Meeting.

And it appearing from their Minutes, that Friends of that Meeting have had under consideration the interesting subject of Slavery, and have prepared an Address to our own and other Christian communities on this subject; which being in unison with the exercise and concern of this Meeting for our oppressed fellow beings, under cruel bondage in a large portion of our widely extended country, was, after deliberate consideration, united with, and adopted by this Meeting. [For which, see pages 42–44, of these minutes.]

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fourth day afternoon, the 11th.

Again met, according to adjournment.—

The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present, but two.

The following minute being introduced, in conformity with a concern opened in this Meeting, yesterday afternoon, was very feelingly united with, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings,—— viz:

1837.

"The Meeting having been brought under exercise for the promotion and right ordering of the Christian testimonies, which distinguish us, as a great ingredient in, (and from the various other bodies of professing Christians, a concern has prevailed, that in all our movements to promote the cause of truth and righteousness on the earth, whether it be the amelioration of the condition of our fellow beings who are suffering under oppression, or the moral & religious improvement of our brethren of the human family generally,— a reverence may be had, by all our members, to the ground of religious concern, and to the guidance of that Wisdom which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated,—and which is sufficient to direct us in the paths of safety. And under this exercise, an earnest solicitude has been felt that we may do nothing to compromise the testimony to the spiritual nature of Divine worship borne by our early Friends, when called upon to leave the various religious denominations with which they had been associated, and again to revive among the nations in which they were scattered, a testimony to the operative influence of the Spirit of Truth upon the mind of man, so amply borne witness to in the Holy Scriptures as essentially necessary to the performance of every religious act, and for our guidance in every good word and work. And while we desire that we may all maintain a spirit and temper which will prevent us from condemning, or in any way attempting to impede the well meant endeavours of others to promote any of the objects of Christian benevolence, or of moral reform, that occupy the attention of the public mind, in the present day; we have believed that the preservation of the precious testimonies to which we have alluded, and our influence, as a religious Society, in promoting the important objects, alike desirable to every benevolent mind, very much depend upon a close adherence to our peculiar principles.

"Under those considerations, we have believed, that to open our meeting houses to Lectures, whose opinions and principles on many subjects, that we consider of primary importance, are widely different from ours, and which we apprehend are frequently brought into view in such Lectures, will have a tendency to draw off the minds of our members, from an establishment in the truth of those principles which have ever been maintained by us, and from a practical exemplification of them in our conduct. It is therefore our advice and judgment, that all such applications for the use of our meeting houses, may be discountenanced by Friends."

Salem and Vassalboro' Quarterly Meetings having in their accounts to this Meeting, introduced to our consideration, the subject of memorializing Congress for the abolition of Slavery and the District of Columbia, and for the prohibiting of the internal Slave Trade, as far as the general Government possesses that power, the subject claimed the attention of the Meeting; and the further consideration of it was referred to this Meeting for deliberation.

The Committee appointed on second day afternoon, to take into consideration the propositions contained in the Report of the School-Committee, presented the following report, viz:—

1837. "To the Yearly Meeting.— The Committee to take into consideration the suggestions contained in the Report of the Boarding School Committee, report, that they have given them their careful consideration, and that they are united in opinion, that it will be best for the Yearly Meeting to adopt them, for the present year. We would however observe, in accordance with the intention of the School Committee, that the Class Books, for reading, should be supplied to the Scholars free of expense, and that this information be appended to the Report of the School Committee. We would propose, in order for a proper selection of poor children to occupy the privilege of the charitable fund, that Monthly Meetings be requested to ascertain the numbers of children of this description in their respective Meetings, and to communicate their names and ages to the Acting Committee of the School, by the time of their meeting in the 9th month next, at Providence. On behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Jones,
Newport, 6th mo. 14, 1837. Mary T. Brown."

which being considered, was united with, and was directed to be forwarded to the several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, in connection with the Report of the School Committee.

The consideration of the admission of children into the School, who are not members, having been referred to the same Committee, they now introduced the following Minute, which was also considered, and united with,— viz.

"This Meeting having again taken under deliberate consideration, the propriety of admitting Children into its Boarding School, who are not members of our Society, came to the conclusion, that it would not be advisable to receive any children who are not members, except in those cases where one or both Parents are members, and who, in the judgment of the Acting Committee, are proper subjects to become inmates of the Institution."

The Committee, now under appointment for the superintendence and government of the Boarding School, with the exception of our late beloved friend Moses Brown, are continued in that service for the year ensuing; or till another appointment — to unite therein with such Committee as may be appointed by the Women's Meeting — and are requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year, to examine and settle the accounts of our late friend Moses Brown, as Treasurer of the School Fund, and for other purposes named in said minute, produced the following Report, which was satisfactory to the Meeting.— viz.

"We of the Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to change the Books, Papers and evidences of property belonging to the Yearly Meeting, and constituting the Boarding School Fund in the hands of our friend Moses Brown, the former Treasurer of said School Fund, and to deliver the same to William Jones, the present Treasurer, Report that we have attended to said service, and have received the same of

said

1837. sion, containing sundry Notes and Mortgages, and evidences of Bank Stock, amounting, by estimation, as per Schedule herewith presented, to $ 94,993. 93 cents, for which we have given him a discharge, and have delivered the same over to William Jenkins, and have taken from him his receipt, which we also herewith present.

Matthew Purinton,
Jon.a Congdon,
Tho.s Howland,
Stephen Gould,
Joseph Anthony.

Providence,
7th Mo. 6th, 1836.

=receipt above refered to.=

"Providence, 7th month 6th, 1836.

"This may certify, that I have this day received of Matthew Purinton, Thomas Howland, Stephen Gould, Jonathan Congdon and Joseph Anthony, a Committee of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, Notes, Mortgages and evidences of Bank Stock, amounting in the aggregate, as estimated in the within Schedule, to Ninety-four thousand, nine hundred and ninety-three Dollars, ninety-three cents; and being the amount of the School Fund of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid; together with one Book and sundry papers, pertaining to the Fund; and a few small Notes of hand, considered of little value, which were in the hands of our friend Moses Brown, the late Treasurer of the School Fund, and all of which belong to the Yearly Meeting aforesaid.— The income of said Fund I am to appropriate under the direction of the Yearly Meeting, and to deliver the principal over to my successor who may be duly appointed, at the request of the Yearly Meeting aforesaid, or otherwise satisfactorily account for the same.

"William Jenkins."

For schedule, see p. 46, this Book.

The receipt of William Jenkins, the present Treasurer of the School Fund, was directed, after being recorded, to be deposited with the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed last year on the subject of the removal of the Yearly Meeting, produced the following Report, viz. "To the Yearly Meeting.— The Committee appointed last year to consider of a suitable place for the location of the Yearly Meeting, when it may be removed from this Island, having from time to time, since their appointment, given attention to the important subject, have, with much unanimity, come to the conclusion to report, that they have not seen their way open to make any definite proposition to the Yearly Meeting at this time, except to recommend the continuance of the subject another year, under the care of a Committee.

On behalf of the Committee,
Thomas Firth,
Mary B. Allen."

Newport, 6 mo. 14, 1837.

Which being considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the subject was continued under the care of the Committee now under appointment, who were requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

1837. a joint Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed last year, to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals as occasion may require, and be instructed to encourage and strengthen them in the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, and in the preservation of love and unity, produced the following report, viz.

"The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed last year, report, That some attention to some subjects affecting the welfare of the Society has been given by some of the Committee, and that they have laboured, as way opened, for the removal of those things which had obstructed the harmony of Friends in some places; yet it is the prospect of this Committee that the appointment of a Committee for a similar service will be expedient at the present time.

On behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Howland,
Elizabeth Wing."

Which being considered, was united with; and it being apprehended that no purpose will result from a new nomination of a Committee for this service. Thomas Howland, Thomas Jones, Daniel Tabor, James Tucker, Edward Wing, Cobb, Peckham, Moses Tinnum, John Hunter, William Cobb, William Hill, Moses Parker, Frances Taber, Arnold Aldrich, John D. Lapp, Enoch Cook jun., William Jenkins, Rowland Greene, Edmund Chase, Levi Gove, John Brown, Richard Brown, Joseph D. Hoag, Benjamin Ira, Edmund Cate, Samuel Bowne were appointed to consider of, and introduce at a future sitting, the names of suitable Friends to constitute such Committee.

The same Friends were also requested to consider the subject of a continuance of the present, or a new appointment of a Meeting for sufferings; and if in their judgment the latter will be best, to bring forward suitable names to constitute such Meeting for the year ensuing.

Friends of New York Yearly Meeting having invited our attention to the situation of the Indian Tribes residing West of the Mississiphi, as by the following extract from their Minute received at this time, viz.

"The condition of the Indians residing ~~West of~~ beyond the Mississiphi, claimed the weighty consideration of the Meeting and a Committee was appointed to co-operate with like Committees from other Yearly Meetings, who may unite in the concern, to devise some measures to ameliorate the condition of this neglected portion of the people."

The proper disposition of the subject, as thus presented, was referred to the consideration of the above Committee — to report at a future sitting.

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare copies of indorsements, or minutes, for our Friends now with us from other Yearly Meetings, and present them at a future sitting.

The Meeting then adjourned to the fourth hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 15th.

Friends again met. Representatives all present but three, for the absence of two of whom, satisfactory reasons were given.

1837.

The Committee appointed to propose suitable names to constitute a Committee to visit Subordinate Meetings and Individuals as way may open, proposed the appointment of the following Friends, viz. Rowland Green, Thomas Anthony, John Wilbur, Edward Wing, John D. Lang, Silas Cable, Benjamin Gardner, Wm. Shearman, Jr. Thomas Rowland, David Burgess, Daniel Cabot, Thomas Jones, Henry Chase, John Brown, Edmund Cook, William Cobb, Moses Perkins, Enoch Reed, William Jenkins, Stephen Gould, Josiah Meader, and Esdras Newhall. which was united with, and they were appointed to those services for the year ensuing, — to labour therein as way may open, and best wisdom direct, and were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

It appearing, by the account received at this time from Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, that there are differences in one of their Monthly Meetings, which have not been terminated by the care of Friends of that Meeting — the case is referred to the particular attention of the above Committee.

The following Report was received from the Committee on Indian concerns, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting.—

"The Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to carry into effect their views relative to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, Report, that attention has been given to the subject, and that one of their number has recently been on a visit to them.

"Since our last report, there has been a survey, by direction of the State of Maine, of the one hundred & forty-six Islands in the Penobscot, belonging to this Tribe. They were found to contain four thousand four hundred and eighty-one acres, and were valued by the Surveyors, at sixty-one thousand two hundred and forty seven dollars, without regard to the improvements — which has been, and is to be divided amongst them, equally in point of value, the State retaining the fee. The Agent for the State of Maine had made arrangements for ploughing about sixty acres on the different Islands, for sowing and planting, exclusive of the Public Farm; and a sufficient quantity of seed furnished by him to those who had retained a sufficient supply from their last year's crop, to put the same under cultivation. The public Farm, noticed in our last report, has been improved, and is still improving. There is the present season, a suitable resident Manager employed by the Agent, whose business it is to go from Island to Island to assist and to encourage and assist them in the cultivation of their Lands. The Catholic Priest who has heretofore resided with the Tribe, has left them, and the Committee have thought that Schools may now be encouraged with more prospect of success; and the subject will no doubt receive attention from such Committee as the Yearly Meeting may appoint. — — There has been no Dwelling-House erected during the past year, and the amount expended by the Committee has consequently been so limitted, that no appropriation for this service will be necessary at this time.

On behalf of the Committee

Caleb Nichols,
William Jenkins.

Newport, 6mo. 14, 1837.

1837. which was acceptable to the Meeting: and the Friends now under appointment were continued, to extend such further aid in promoting the objects which the Yearly Meeting had had in view in this concern, as may open for; — and it appearing from the report, ~~that there is a prospect that schools may now be established and get~~ that there is a prospect that schools may now be established and get them with more success than heretofore, the Committee were encouraged to give attention to this desirable object, — and report next year. —

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, produced the following report, viz

"To this Yearly Meeting, now sitting:

"The Committee appointed at a previous sitting of the Yearly Meeting to settle with the Treasurer and for other purposes, report, that they have settled with the Treasurer of this Meeting, and find a balance in his hands of $237.75. We would propose, that Twelve hundred dollars be raised for the use of this Meeting, and that David Buffum be re-appointed Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

William Reynolds"

Dr. 15. 1837.

Which being read and considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting and in accordance therewith, it was concluded to raise $1200 as the sum proposed. — David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of this sum, viz. R. Island 30 pr Ct. — Sandwich, 30 — Salem 12½ — Smithfield 12½ — Dover 6¼ — Falmouth 4¾ — Vassalboro' 4.

The following Friends, ... viz .....

Rowland Greene.	Thomas Anthony.	Stephen Gould.	Thos. Taylor, Salem.
Thomas Rowland.	John Warren.	David Buffum	John Headley
Wm. Hallam.	Matthew Mainton.	Obadiah Chace	Edward Wing
James Tucker.	John Dennen.	Oliver Chace.	Samuel Congdon.
Perkins Nichols.	Stephen A. Chace.	Obed Nichols.	George Rowland.
Thos. Waterman. 3.	Daniel Johnson	Benj. Tripp.	Fabius H. Ide
Stephen Jones.	James L. Fry	Wm. Reynolds.	William Powell.
Silas Nicholl.	Benjamin Fry.	Silas Gardner.	Seth Wilbur. Jam.
Walter Allen.	Nicholas Congdon.	Peter Dennen.	Samuel Eliot Jolley.
Francis Jones.	John Osborne.	Daniel Hathaway.	John D. Long.
William Webb.	William Jenkins.	Caleb Metcalf.	Moses H. Wade.
Joshua Headley.	Jonathan Jenkins.	Andrew Nichols.	Samuel Taylor, jr.

having been proposed by the Committee to which that service was referred, were appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, or till another appointment.

The condition of the Indian Tribes residing beyond the Mississippi, having been again brot into view by the recommendation of the Committee to which that subject was referred, that the Yearly Meeting appoint a Committee to correspond on this subject with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, as way may open, — obtained the solid and sympathetic consideration of Friends, and Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, Thomas Rowland, Stephen Gould, John D. Long, John Headley, Wm. H. Chapman, jun. Samuel Congdon, James Boyd Jolley, George Rowland, George H. Read, Thos. Gould, and David Buffum, were appointed to constitute a Committee on behalf of this Yearly Meeting, for the above purposes, and were requested to report next year.

1837.

Answers to the Queries on the subject of Education having been received from all our Quarterly Meetings, were read at this time. And William Rowntree, Ebenezer Way, Wm. Henry Chase, John Bacombe Curtis, Silvanus Lloyd, Boston Jay for Corbett, Metcalf, Edward Brooks, jun., Benj. Gardner, & Anthony Chase, were appointed to prepare a Digest of the information received, and bring it before this Meeting at our next sitting; and also, if way is should open for it, prepare a minute of advice on the subject of Education, to be sent down to our subordinate Meetings.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends from other Yearly Meetings with Minutes, agreeable to essays proposed.

The proposal of this Unitized Quarterly Meeting for an alteration in the time of holding their select Quarter, when it occurs in the 8th month, at Boston, — from the 11th hour, to the 5th hour in the afternoon of the same day, — was united with, — and they allowed to hold it as heretofore, — after the present year.

It is the conclusion of this Meeting to have printed, for distribution among Friends and others, 10,000 copies of the Address on the subject of Slavery, prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings, and united with and adopted by this and the Women's Yearly Meeting. And William Christy, Samuel Livingston, William A. Robinson, John Rowland, jun., Samuel B. Tobey, John Wilbur Earle, Thomas Rowland, John Osborne, and the Clerk of this Meeting, were appointed a Committee to procure the printing of the above number of copies, and also to give their attention to the proper circulation of them; and were authorised to call on the Treasurer for the expense.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning, the 16th.

Friends again assembled, pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives present, same as yesterday.

Essays of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and one to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends in this country, were produced by the Committee appointed for that purpose, and being read & approved, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings respectively.

The Committee appointed yesterday afternoon, to compile a Digest of the information received from our several Quarterly Meetings on the subject of Education, and to see how it would be best to open for it, an essay of a minute of advice on this subject, produced the following Report.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Education, Report, That by the information received from the several Quarterly Meetings, there appear to have been, in the course of the past year, Two Monthly Meeting Schools, averaging six months; three Preparative Meeting Schools, which average eight months; fifteen Family Schools, averaging seven months, and one recently established. Also five private or select Schools, under the entire control of Friends, but not confined exclusively to Friends children. The number of scholars who have attended the above Schools, or who have received instruction at

1837. The Yearly Meeting's Boarding School, is reported to have been about five hundred and fifty; making an increase, since last year, of one hundred and fifty. Several District Schools have been taught by members of our Society.

"Although the information derived from the answers to the queries, is not so full and explicit as would have been desirable, yet it affords evidence of the interest felt by many Friends in the welfare of the rising generation, by providing the means of acquiring a guarded education. While some parents in many parts of our widely extended Yearly Meeting, are making commendable exertions to bring up their children in the way they should go, we regret that this concern is not more universally felt. In looking over our Society, and beholding the children who are soon to take the places of the parents, and upon whom the important concerns of Society must ere long devolve, a deep solicitude is felt on their account, that the clay in the hands of the potter may not be marred on the wheel. We are aware that some of the peculiar testimonies which we are called upon to sustain, and which distinguish us from other religious denominations, are liable to be viewed by our children, who are compelled to associate with others in acquiring a practical education, as presenting "formidable obstacle in the way of their continuing consistent members of our Society;" and we earnestly recommend to parents, and particularly to those whose locations are so remote from each other, as to render it impracticable to establish schools of their own, to endeavour to remove this obstacle, as far as it may be done, by providing the means of instruction in their own families, and by impressing upon the minds of their offspring the importance of building up the hedge about them, which may prove the blessing of preservation in after years. In conclusion, we would simply advert to the necessity of still maintaining a lively interest in this highly important and interesting concern, not only as a duty incumbent upon us, but as a means of contributing to the happiness and welfare of the beloved youth.

On behalf of the Committee,

William Reynolds."

Which having been read and considered, was satisfactory to us; and this Meeting having long been deeply interested for the guarded education of the children and youth of our Society, recommends this subject to the solid attention of Friends; and directs that copies of the Report be forwarded to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

The Yearly Meeting's Records, and other Books and Papers, having in the year 1788 been placed in charge of our late beloved Friend Moses Brown, who deceased in the 9th month last, they are placed for the year ensuing, under the care of this Meeting for Sufferings; and that Meeting is requested to select a suitable place for their safe keeping, and to appoint some Friend to have the particular care thereof, under such directions as they may think necessary, till our next Yearly Meeting.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

In conclusion, we feel bound thankfully to acknowledge, that during the various exercises of this Meeting, there has been graciously extended to us an evidence of the presence of the Great Head of the Church, under the influence of which the weighty concerns of Society, that have engaged our attention, have in much brotherly love and condescension been tried to a satisfactory result; for which we desire to ascribe praises unto Him to whom they are due. Proposing to meet again on this Island, next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting. Abm. Shearman, Jun. Clk.

1837.

Address of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, in the Sixth month, 1837, to its own Members, and those of other Christian Communities.

The subject of Slavery, as it now exists in some parts of our common country, having been brought into notice before us, at the present time, we have deemed it right to call the attention of our own, and of other Christian communities, to its serious consideration.

It is well known that the Society of Friends, as a religious body, have long maintained a decided testimony against holding their fellow men in bondage: A testimony which had its origin in a deep felt conviction that the practice could not be reconciled with the precepts and doctrines of the Christian religion: Yet in thus renewedly adverting to the subject, we feel no disposition to keep out of view the fact, that in the earlier settlement of Friends in this country, many of them did, in common with other professors of the Christian name, participate in the practice; and we have thought that encouragement would be derived from a brief reference to the rise and progress of the concern for its removal, so far as related to the Society of Friends.

Individuals of the Society, if not opposed to it from the commencement, very soon became uneasy with the system; they were drawn to a consideration of the subject on Christian principle, & becoming fully convinced that it was inconsistent with the spirit of the Gospel of love and peace, they felt themselves called upon, not only to bear an individual testimony against it, but from a sense of religious duty, to labour in love, with their brethren, for its removal. They saw, that the descendants of Africa were fellow-beings, equally with ourselves the objects of Divine regard; and that the sacred injunction of doing unto others, in all things as we would that they should do unto us, was as applicable to them as to any other portion of the human family. The patient and persevering efforts of these, and of other pious men, who succeeded them, and in whom the love of God was largely accompanied with its never failing attendant, the love of man, were eminently blessed;— the concern gradually extended till neighbourhoods and meetings were led to see the inconsistency & injustice of claiming property in their fellow men; × and eventually the Society at large having in their collective capacity, long been deeply exercised with a consideration of the subject, and having gradually advanced, step by step, towards so desirable a result, became united in restoring the enjoyment of the natural and inalienable right of man, to all who had been held in a state of slavery by members of the Society, throughout the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this continent. And for more than half a century, no person could hold his fellow beings in bondage, and retain his connection with Friends. Our predecessors in religious faith, having thus cleared themselves and the Society, from any participation in a practice which they believed to be inconsistent with the precepts and doctrines of our blessed Lord and his Apostles, the subject of Slavery has never ceased to occupy the feeling consideration of Friends, as a body of professing Christians, concerned for the promotion of truth and righteousness in the earth; and they have been led, from time to time, to cast whatever weight of influence they may have possessed, into the scale favorable to the cause of their enslaved fellow men of African descent.

× See Pole, at close

1837

The testimony which was so clear to our worthy predecessors, and which they made many sacrifices to establish, while slavery was yet tolerated in most, if not all the states in which they resided, is still cherished by us, and we have reason to desire, may ever be inviolably maintained by all our members. We believe it to rest on the immutable basis of truth and justice, and of pure Christianity. We still continue deeply to sympathize with all who are under oppression. Yet we would remind all our dear Friends of every class and station in the society, that as the concern had its origin in a faithful attention to the convictions of religious duty, so we believe that in all our efforts to advance this cause, as well as in every other religious concern, we should look to Him, for the guidance of his Holy Spirit, who has declared, "Without me ye can do nothing." Thus should we become qualified, not only to see with clearness, what is called for at our hands, but the concern itself being preserved on its original ground, we should be enabled to labour for its advancement, under the influence of Gospel love, and with feelings of good will to every class of our fellow men. And we would, in tenderness of feeling, add, that should any of our members be led, from whatever motive, to abandon this ground, we fear that not only an individual loss would be sustained, but that the cause itself would thereby suffer.

Let us then, dear Friends, continue to be united together, and act as one body, strengthening and encouraging one another, in our endeavours so to keep under the living influence of the Spirit of the Gospel, in the discharge of this and every other Christian duty, that we may be enabled, watchingly to seek for right ability to perform every good work, in humble reliance upon an over-ruling Providence, — remembering, that altho' Paul may plant, and Apollos water, it is God who giveth the increase.

And while thus engaged, renewedly to call the attention of our own members to this important testimony, and to the principles on which we have ever considered it to rest, — we have believed, — that while slavery continues to exist, to a fearful extent, in some portions of our beloved country, & while, in addition to its other enormous evils, the internal traffic in slaves, continues to rend asunder the tenderest of human ties, it can never cease to commend itself, as a subject of serious thoughtfulness, to every benevolent Christian mind. And we would affectionately invite the professors of other religious denominations, to give to the subject that attentive consideration, which its great & increasing importance would seem to demand. We cherish no disposition to prescribe to them, in what way their particular efforts to remove this, and other evils that abound in our land, shall be directed; but we would, in Christian freedom, encourage them to embrace every right opportunity, for endeavouring, in the spirit of Gospel love, to harmonize their brethren in religious profession, uniting in the above holding Christ, seriously to examine this momentous question, in all its various bearings. As it relates to the well-being of themselves, their children, and their country, we are persuaded they would find, (we have no doubt they often do find,) abundant cause for serious meditation: but were they, in sincerity of heart, without regard to self-interest and the maxims of a cruel policy, to enter upon an enquiry into its consistency with the precepts and doctrines of Him, who in the greatness of his love, for a fallen world, gave himself a ransom for all, — how could they turn away from the conviction, — that to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God, — to love

1837.

our neighbour as ourselves, — to do unto others, as we would that they should do unto us, — are duties of universal obligation? — and that to claim property in their fellow men, to hold them in unconditional bondage, requiring the fruit of their labour without any adequate return; and withholding, in great measure at least, the means of moral and religious instruction from those who are equally with themselves, and with us, heirs of the "promises of salvation by Christ," — is wholly at variance with that dispensation, which was ushered into the world with the joyous anthem, of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men." And seeing these things in their true light, and remembering that He whom we profess to serve, and who hath "made of one blood, all nations of men, for to dwell on all the face of the earth," is no respecter of persons, that he is a God of justice as well as of mercy, and hath declared: "For the oppression of the poor, for the sighings of the needy, I will arise saith the Lord," — how could they refrain from turning to Him for strength, to pursue the path of duty, that would thus be opened before them: from becoming at least, preachers of righteousness by their example, if the influence of example were all that they had it in their power to exert? And to this, we have ardently desired, they may be rewarded, in their religious and to every motive that can rightly influence the Christian mind — that the blessing of millions who are ready to perish, may come upon them.

We cannot doubt that there are, among the inhabitants of the States in which Slavery is now widely extended, those who are taking a thoughtful, sober view, of this highly interesting subject. We are fully aware that they are surrounded with difficulties of no ordinary magnitude. We sympathize with them in their trying state. But we would that they could be encouraged, instead of looking too much at the difficulties that are presented to their minds, to turn to the gracious offers of assistance, to all who rightly seek it, which abound throughout the sacred volume, — and to the animating hope that is set before all those, who in sincerity & singleness of heart, obey the Gospel.

In conclusion, we cannot forbear repeating, the very great solicitude we have felt, that the members of every professing Christian church may, under a deep sense of religious duty, — and encouraged by this cheering declaration, — "Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy" — commence, in earnest, the endeavour to clear their hands from all participation in the continuance of Slavery in our land; and then, we believe, that difficulties that may now seem to be insurmountable, would be made to disappear, and the system itself, thro the Divine blessing upon their example and their labours, cease to be a reproach to us, as a Nation.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Wm. Shearman, jun. Clerk of the Men's M.g.
Hannah Field, jun. Clerk of the Women's M.g.

Note. — It may be satisfactory to many of our members, as well as to others, to be informed, that this interesting concern had engaged the attention of some of the Meetings of Friends within the limits of New-England Yearly Meeting, as early as the year 1715. In the 4th month of that year, the Monthly Meeting of Nantucket made a minute, expressing the "sense and judgment of that Meeting, viz. "it is not agreeable to Truth, for Friends to purchase Slaves, and keep them term of life."

[Memorandum — not recorded.]

Item 4th of Moses Brown's Will gives to Anna Almy Jenkins, the occupancy, &c. of his homestead Farm, and to her Children, after her, for and during her and their natural lives — and in case her children or any of them survive and are living to and at the age of twenty-one years, or marry, and have a child or children, — then, this estate, after their mother's life time, goes to them in fee simple forever. — But in default of this, the reversionary fee simple vests in the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, for the use of the Boarding School.

By the Codicil to said Will, it is provided that in case Moses Brown Jenkins, born after the Will was made and executed, should live to the age of 21 years, or marry and have a child, said homestead Farm, after the life time of his Mother, should descend to him, any thing proposed or written in said Will to the contrary notwithstanding.

Extracts from the Last Will and Testament of Moses Brown, deceased.

[See page 33.]

Item 35. Note and Mortgage for $15,000

"Item 35. I give and bequeath to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, a Note of hand and Mortgage, signed by Joseph Hawes, John Brewer, Henry Holden, Joshua H. Wood, and their wives, for the sum of Fifteen Thousand dollars, as a fund, the interest of which, only, to be appropriated and used for the following purposes.—

1/3 for Charitable Fund.

One third part thereof to be added to the Charitable Fund of Friends' Boarding School in Providence, excepting so much of the income thereof as may be sufficient to pay the schooling herein given to divers persons, and such others as may be scholars in said School at my decease at the time of my decease, which is to be paid out of this third part. The Interest of the said third part, thereafter, to be applied by the School Committee, as a Charitable Fund, for the schooling of such members of the Society as are actually poor, notwithstanding or not as such, by the respective monthly meetings; and Females are to have equal advantages of the whole of this legacy as Males.

1/3 for Paym't of Teachers.

One other third part of the income of the said note and mortgage is to be applied towards paying the Teachers in the respective departments, who dwell in the said School House, and have the care of the Scholars out of as well as in School hours, watching over their morals, in love, for their good, equally to each of them.

1/3 for purchase of Land

The other third part or Five Thousand dollars, together with the interest thereof, to be reserved until there shall be offered a tract of land suitable for the Institution, in the vicinity, which can be purchased for its value. The School Committee are then, notwithstanding the foregoing restrictions to the use of the interest only, hereby authorized to appropriate the said sum, or any part thereof as may appear to them necessary to the purchase of the same, to belong to the said Institution in fee simple forever. And whereas it is most likely the interest on the last mentioned Five thousand dollars may accumulate, therefore, notwithstanding the foregoing limitations and directions for the disposing of the same, it is my Will, that, in case a larger Meeting House should be required in this City, sufficient to hold Yearly Meetings in, the said interest be applied to that purpose, and the School Committee are hereby authorized to appropriate the same accordingly.

Item 36. Books.

"Item 36. I further give to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, for their Boarding School, all such books as I have marked in my Catalogue for that purpose."

Item 37. Lot of Land.

"Item 37. I also give to the said Yearly Meeting, to remain as an appendage to the said School Institution forever, about two acres of land, with the dwelling house & Shop thereon where Joseph Cole now lives, divided and separated from the School house Lot only by the road on the East of said School house Lot."

[Note.— The 43d Item of Moses Brown's Will, and an Extract from the Codicil relating to the same was also referred to in the Yearly Meeting, but was not read; it conveys to the Yearly Meeting, on the occurrence of certain remote contingencies the Reversionary Fee Simple of the Homestead Farm, for the use of the Boarding School. The 43d Item thus concludes, viz.

over]

1837.

Extract from M. Brown's Will.

Item 12.

"And it is my Will that the same and all the other Estates herein given to them, do vest in and remain to the said Yearly Meeting and to their successors, holding the same Christian Faith and doctrines, as exemplified in the writings of George Fox, George Whitehead, William Penn, Robert Barclay, and others of our early Friends, professors of the Christian Religion of our blessed Lord and Saviour, both as to his outward manifestations in the body, and inward Divine Light, Spirit, Grace and Truth, for the conversion, regeneration, preservation and sanctification of the mind and soul of man, and is truly taught in the Scriptures when opened by the same divine Spirit which superintended the writers thereof, for the very great benefit, strength and comfort of all pious people who read them — and especially for the instruction and edification of religious, seeking minds of both young and old."

An account of the Securities belonging to the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England whose Fund, with the securities for the same, received of Moses Brown, the former Treasurer, and delivered over to William Jenkins, the present Treasurer.

[Jan° 9, 1838.] [For report of Committee, &c. see pages 35, 36.]

1824. 8m° 18	Fifty shares in Central Bank, at East Greenwich, W. Casey the Cashier of said Bank, which cost.	$	1,283.30
23	Jonathan Congdon & Sons' Note, and Mortgage of his house		2,000.—
"	John Whipple's Note, and Mortgage of his house		3,500
1825. 10m° 5	Jenkins & Adams's Note, with Wm. Almy's endorsement, thereon		2,853.82
1826. 3m° 6	Charles Stewart's Note, and Mortgage of his house. for		3,000.—
4m° 14	Jenkins & Harris's Note, with Wm. Almy's endorsement,		5,000.—
5m° 19	Jenkins & Harris's Note, with Wm. Almy's endorsement,		5,000.—
11m° 16	Charles Potter's Note, and Mortgage of his Franklin House &c. payable the 1st of 1st month, 1827.		12,000.—
1832. 4m° 9	Almy & Brown's Note,		1,458.56
1835. 8m° 14	Wm. & Samson Almy's Note, for money p.d by Jas. Chase,		2,400.—
1836. 4m° 16	Almy & Brown's Note for money p.d by Jas. Chase, for his Note given up.		3,600.—
1839. 4m° 12	Asa Dennis's Note endorsed by Joseph Clapp. For the Charitable Fund;		650.—
	N.B. There was another Note for $90.36, taken up & used as disposable funds, being credited & settled in the Treasurer's a/c		
1826. 7m° 5	56½ shares in Providence Bank, as per Certificate, by Thomas P. Ives, President, at $450 each		25,425.—
7	183 shares in Pawtucket Manufacturer's Bank, at $105 each		19,215.—
	The failure of many dealers therein, occasioned the removal of the Bank to Providence, and 34 per ct to be paid in to restore its Capital.		
7m° 7	114 shares in Smithfield Union Bank, John Osborne at Cashier's rates.		5,928.—
1824. 8m° 26	30 shares in Merchants Bank, per Wm. Richmond the Presidents Certificate, cost		1,680.25
		$	94,993.93

Copy, compared,
A. Sherman Jr Clk

1837. Epistles from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, from the 11th to the 16th, inclusive, of the Sixth month, 1837.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To London.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received at this time, and read in our Meeting to our satisfaction. We feel renewedly sensible, that the sympathy of our brethren, under a consciousness that we are members of the same household of faith and co-workers in the same glorious cause, tends to strengthen and encourage us in the discharge of our religious duties. And at this time we are earnestly desirous, weak and feeble as we feel ourselves to be, that we may contribute, in some little degree, to hold up the hands of those that from weariness, may be, ready to hang down. Dear Friends, the everlasting foundation, Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages, remains to be the alone sure foundation upon which we can build; and it is as necessary now, as it ever has been, that we take heed how we build thereupon, for the day cometh when every man's work shall be tried. We continue unshakenly to believe, and this confidence is precious to us, that our predecessors were concerned to build upon this foundation, and that in unutterable mercy, they were favoured with a measure of that divine illumination, which gave them enlightened views of the glorious Gospel of our Lord, and led them into a heart felt experience of its spirituality and adaptation to the wants and necessities of our fallen condition. We impressively feel the necessity, if we would walk acceptably in the sight of God, of our endeavouring, in the ability that may be afforded us, still to continue to hold fast the profession of our faith, without wavering, coming up in the footsteps of the Flock of the companions of Christ.

All our Christian doctrines and testimonies, should be dear to us; but we feel our minds at this time especially drawn, to exhort all who profess our name to faithfulness in the observance of our distinguishing manner of performing divine worship, which we have believed was acceptable to our Heavenly Father, and in accordance with that description of true worship, so emphatically made by our blessed Lord, to the woman of Samaria. We believe there is yet left a cloud of witnesses, that can testify, that at these seasons they have individually experienced the verification of the ancient promise, that they that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength. Many can bear their testimony, that at times when no vocal offering was given, made, the Master has graciously vouchsafed to be near, and to break unto them the bread of life, to the refreshing of their souls.

And if our Meetings continue to be held in the life and power in which they were originally established, there will not be wanting, we humbly trust, a living, baptizing ministry among us, but faithful Brethren & Sisters, under the qualifying anointing that teacheth, will be prepared to invite others to come and participate in the riches of the glorious mystery, which is hid with Christ in God.

1837.

An Epistle from your Brethren in the concern of Slavery in the United States, has been received at this time. This important subject continues to claim our serious attention, and we are desirous to do all that is called for at our hands, towards removing this great evil from our Land. We feel that the cause is the Lords, and that we can only rightly move in it, in the ability that he gives; and we humbly desire to be found watchful and obedient to the promptings of Truth, in the discharge of this, as well as our other religious duties. Our Meeting for Sufferings produced at this time an Address to our own, and other Christian communities, calling their attention solemnly to the subject, which having been approved by this Meeting, is directed to be published & extensively circulated.

The condition of the Aboriginal tribe of Indians, still claims our attention, and we trust the care of Friends has been, in the direction of some benefit to this portion, of the remnants of the primitive inhabitants of this Land.

In conclusion we feel bound humbly to acknowledge that during the various sittings of this Meeting, there has been graciously extended to us, an evidence of the presence of the Great Head of the Church, for which we desire to ascribe praises unto Him, to whom are due, honour, glory, thanksgiving & praise forever.

With feelings of affectionate regard,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Notwithstanding we have not received an Epistle from you at this time, yet our minds have been turned towards you in brotherly love, with desires for our mutual preservation.

It is good for us, when thus permitted to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, to be introduced into sympathy and travail of Spirit with our dear Friends in a distant Land, that we may be made instrumental in strengthening one another in the most Holy Faith — Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and in the gift of His Spirit; that Faith which works by love and purifies the heart. This must be the foundation of the Christian hope; and when resting here, how does the heart glow with gratitude to our heavenly Father, for his abundant mercy extended to a fallen world, in the gift of a Sanctifier and a Redeemer. The soul is bowed in abasedness of self — our utter unworthiness and inability to do any good thing of ourselves is realized, and an entire dependence placed on the guidance and assistance of the Holy Spirit, to enable us to perform every good word and work. Under this influence, how will our hearts become imbued with love to God and love to man, and that charity, which thinketh no evil, will pervade the mind, and the peaceable fruits of the Gospel be manifested in our daily walks.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have cause to believe, has been owned by Him who is the crown of all rightly gathered assemblies. Many of our dear young Friends have been with us

1837. at this time, whose exemplary appearance and deportment afford encouragement, that in due time, the places of the fathers will be supplied by the sons.

The deeply interesting subject of Slavery, as it exists in our land, has received the solemn consideration of this Meeting, and has resulted in the adoption of a document prepared by our Meeting for Sufferings, addressed to our own and other Christian communities, on that important subject. A copy of which is herewith forwarded to you.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting, by

Thatcher Shearman, Jun. Clerk.

To Philadelphia

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the fourth month last, has been received and read; and we have been renewedly made to believe that the followers of a crucified Redeemer, however widely they may be separated from each other or how diversified soever their condition in life may be, being baptized into the one Spirit, and contending for the one Faith, are united as members of one body, Jesus Christ being the holy Head. We have desired that brotherly love may continue, that our portion of the Church may be more and more united as the heart of one man; that not only the watchmen may see eye to eye, but that we may all be of one heart and of one mind.

Our feelings have been painfully affected, at this time, in view of the deficiencies that exist amongst us. The love of the world is, with some, we fear, more operative than the love of the Father. There is with these, a want of faithfulness in supporting those peculiar Christian testimonies, which it has pleased the Head of the Church to call upon us steadily to maintain. Notwithstanding these sorrowful defects, we rejoice in the belief that there are amongst us, not a few, who are lovingly concerned for the prosperity of Zion, and for the enlargement of her borders. We desire that the hands of those, wherever situated, may be strengthened to labour, in the ability which God giveth, for the removal of these weaknesses; that we may indeed be a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

The condition of our coloured fellow-beings, who are held in cruel bondage, continues to claim the serious attention of this Meeting. The Meeting for Sufferings having had the subject under consideration, prepared an Address to our own and other Christian communities upon the subject, which was cordially united with by this Meeting, and a large number of copies were ordered to be printed for circulation. We herewith send you one. We have anxiously desired that in supplicating this and every other branch of our testimonies, we may seek counsel from Him who has declared, that without me ye can do nothing. Then shall we be preserved from all undue fervour of feeling on the one hand, and every approach to indifference on the other; and unswayed by worldly policy, shall stand, as for a long time we have stood, the unflinching advocates for the suffering and the dumb.

From the report of the Committee to attend care to the Penobscot Indians, we learn that this fragment of a once numerous and deeply

1837. injured people, continues to make some progress in the arts of civilized life. We are encouraged to further efforts to promote their social and religious welfare, and so far as in the Divine hand we may be able, to bring them to a full acquaintance with the enjoyments of Christian society.

"We have been led at this time reverently to commemorate that goodness which first gathered us to be a people; and have called to mind that through long and severe suffering, our worthy predecessors in the Truth bore testimony to the purity & spirituality of the Gospel. "Endued with power from on high," they earnestly and nobly "contended for the faith" once delivered to the saints, taught by the unerring influence of the Spirit, the emptiness of a worldly profession. They rejected the forms and ceremonies with which human invention had encumbered Christianity. Fervent was their desire that in attempting to serve their Lord and Master, they might act in simple obedience to his teachings. They endured the storm of persecution and trial, and we are reaping the fruits of their Christian fortitude. We have earnestly desired that we may not shrink from the support of any of those precious testimonies, which at the cost of so great sacrifices, they were engaged in promulgating; that when assailed by the wonted enemy of our salvation, and conscious of inability to fight "the good fight of faith," we may apply to the power whence they derived strength in faith relying upon him "who never said to the wrestling seed of Jacob seek ye my face in vain."

Our Meeting has been large; and from the number and circumspect deportment of our younger brethren, we cherish the comforting belief that some among this class are, in the preparing hand of the Lord, becoming fitted to worthily fill places of those who have long stood as pillars in the militant Church, and who will soon be removed from their labours, to share the glories of the Church triumphant.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk

To New York.

Dear Friends.

We have again been permitted to meet in this our annual assembly, and through the mercy and goodness of our Holy Redeemer, have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns of the Church that have come before us in much harmony and brotherly love; and notwithstanding we feel ourselves as a proved and tried, and at times almost a forsaken people, yet ability is at seasons given to lay hold of the blessed promise, that the Lord will not cast off forever; but, though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

We have been brought affectionately to our remembrance at this time, by the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 5th mo. last, and we are renewedly confirmed that these epistolary communications, when conducted in simplicity and the love of the Gospel, are calculated, through the Divine blessing, to strengthen

1837. the bond of brotherly love, and to excite in us a lively interest for the welfare of our distant Brethren — and by the assistance of Divine grace we shall be able to put ourselves to shoulder and become one another's helpers in the Lord."

"The state of Society having been brought into view by the reading of the answers to the Queries from our subordinate meetings, many minds were exercised on account of the deficiencies therein noticed, particularly neglect in the due attendance of our religious meetings.

May we as a people, more and more realize the importance of worshipping that Being on whom we are dependent for all temporal and spiritual blessings. If we suffer the things of this world to keep us from the due attendance of our religious meetings we cannot advance in religious experience nor grow in Grace and in the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ who died for us that we might live to honour, worship and obey Him.

The suffering condition of the enslaved people of colour in this Land has introduced this Meeting into a sympathetic feeling for them, and with much unanimity resulted in adopting an Address to our own members and other Christian communities, presented by our Meeting for Sufferings. And dear Friends, we feel a hope, that thro' the blessing of Him who died for all, and hath made of one blood all nations, our efforts may be crowned, and that, in his own time, he may make way for the deliverance of this much injured people, in mercy and not in judgment.

The concern manifested in your Epistle for the welfare of the Aborigines of this country, and especially for those beyond the Mississippi, was truly interesting to us, and much sympathy was expressed for them; and this Meeting united in appointing a Committee to correspond with similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings to endeavour to ameliorate the condition of this much neglected and suffering people.

The Penobscot tribe of Indians, situated within the limits of this Yearly Meeting, continues to claim our attention, and we are encouraged to believe, that thro' the Divine blessing, Friends have been instrumental in improving their condition.

Finally, beloved Brethren, Farewell. — Our hearts desire and prayer to God is, that Israel might be saved. The day calls loudly for our Society to be of one heart and of one mind. Let us endeavour to keep near to the Shepherd of Israel, for unless in all our movements we know his puttings forth and going before, our labours will be in vain. remembering the word of the Lord thro' the Prophet was. "Plead ye with your mother, plead: and let the people renew their strength: let them come near; then let them speak: let us come near together to judgment." — "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do his will, working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever."

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk.

1837

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends.

Being again favored to meet in our annual assembly, we have to commemorate the goodness and tender mercy of our Heavenly Father, in afresh extending over us the canopy of his Divine love, gathering into the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace. We are returning friends of Christian communion, and to awaken those feelings of love for our distant brethren which are the sure badges of discipleship, evidencing, that whatever subtracts, we are still one people, united by the endearing ties of Gospel fellowship, and labouring to promote the advancement of the same precious cause.

Although, in reviewing the state of society amongst us, as opened by the extension of the Queries, we find many deficiencies existing within our borders painful to the righteously exercised mind: yet we feel comforted in believing, that there are those dwelling amongst us, who stand as faithful watchmen upon the walls, and are deeply exercised to labour for their removal.

We have had the attendance at this time, of a large number of our young friends, many of whom have given evidence, by their solid deportment, and the interest they have evinced in the concerns of the Society, that they are becoming prepared for future usefulness in the Church, and afford the animating hope, that as the worthy Fathers, who have stood as pillars in the society, are translated to the Church triumphant, there will be some preserved to fill up their places, and stand for the cause and testimony of Truth in the earth.

We notice with much satisfaction, that the cause of the enslaved, still claims your weighty consideration, we would offer you a word of encouragement to persevere in your labours, to effect the removal of this load of oppression from our fellowmen, under the guidance of Divine Wisdom; for the work is the Lords, and we humbly trust, he is preparing the way for their deliverance. Our Meeting for Sufferings has prepared an Address to our members, and to other Christian communities, on the subject of Slavery, which has been approved by this Meeting, and directed to be printed for general circulation, a copy of which we herewith transmit you.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 18th month last has been received and read to our satisfaction.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends & Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by William Stabler, Jr. Clk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Under a renewed sense of the loving kindness and tender mercies of our Heavenly Father, our hearts have been warmed with gratitude, and having been permitted before Him; under a consideration of our weakness and unworthiness, we are brought into deep solicitude that his compassion may continue

to be extended towards us, and that we may be strengthened, by the renewings of his Holy Spirit, to perform, in singleness of heart, whatever he may require at our hands.

The testimonies which have long been borne by our religious Society, and which have distinguished us from other denominations of professing Christians, have, at the present time, continued to be precious in our view, and we have desired that Friends every where may be encouraged steadfastly to maintain them.

Your Epistle of last month is received, and we are confirmed in the belief, that such a correspondence between the different parts of our widely spread Society, affording, as it does, an opportunity for a brotherly interchange of sentiment on subjects affecting the welfare of the body, must have a beneficial tendency, and serve to encourage one another in well doing, and to strengthen the bonds which unite us together as one people.

The portion of your Epistle relating to the condition of our oppressed fellowmen, who are deprived of their rights as rational and accountable beings, has claimed our weighty consideration, and has awakened in our minds a lively sense of your peculiar situation in regard to this people, and a feeling of tender sympathy with you in those trials which you may be called upon to endure for the testimony of truth in their behalf. And under the influence of a measure of that love which regards all mankind as the children of one Almighty Parent, it hath been our earnest desire at this time, that you may continue to be instrumental in promoting the welfare and the deliverance of the outcast, by holding up, amidst the darkness around about you, the pure light of our ancient testimonies.

Our Meeting for Sufferings has prepared an Address on the subject of Slavery to our own Members, and those of other Christian communities which has been approved by this Meeting, and is to be printed for distribution.

May we, dear Friends, laying aside all dependence on the arm of flesh, seek in humble prostration of soul for strength to enable us faithfully to discharge the duties that may devolve upon us in our various allotments — that we may be qualified to labour in the ability that God giveth, for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth; so, that, through our instrumentality the cords of Zion may be lengthened and her stakes strengthened; that the righteousness thereof may go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, Asst. Clerk.

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Being again permitted, through the continued goodness of our Heavenly Father, to meet in this our annual assembly, our distant brethren have been brought afresh to our remembrance; in the renewings of that love, which is the bond of Christian fellowship. We have had renewedly to believe, that as we live under the in-

1837. influence of its purifying and sanctifying operation we shall be increasingly dear to each other, and our correspondence will, from time to time, be an evidence, that we are indeed one people, however distant our allotments in the militant church, and that one is our Master, even Christ.

Your acceptable Epistle of 18th month last has been received and read at this time, together with similar communications from other Yearly Meetings with which we have correspondence. We noticed with satisfaction, your progress in the weighty undertaking of establishing a Yearly Meeting Boarding School. We trust that as the interesting object of affording the means of a guarded literary and religious education for the beloved Youth is kept steadily in view, a blessing will attend your endeavours, and that many of those, now in the younger walks of life, may become fitted under the qualifying hand of our Divine Master, to fulfil their stations in the Church, when those who are now bearing the burden, shall have passed from works to rewards.

Our School continues, as heretofore, to afford evidence of usefulness to the children and youth of the Society.

Our Meeting at this time has been large, and we have been mercifully favoured with the overshadowings of heavenly love, and have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns which have come before us, in much harmony.

In a review of the state of society, as exhibited in the accounts from our subordinate Meetings, we still have to lament the existence of deficiencies among our members, in the faithful support of some of our precious testimonies; and a lively zeal was manifested, in many of our concerned brethren, to strengthen the weak and to encourage the young to an early dedication of heart, to the work and service of their Lord and Master.

The numerous attendance at this time, and becoming deportment of our young Friends, have been encouraging to us, and we have had a comforting hope that many of them have chosen the Lord for their portion. We have greatly desired, that such every where, may be encouraged to follow on to know the Lord who is their deliverer, that so, when the fathers shall have done serving him on earth, their may be his sons.

This Meeting has been introduced, at this time, into a weighty exercise and concern on the subject of Slavery: and our Meeting for Sufferings having prepared an Address to our own and other Christian Communities on that subject, it was approved by this Meeting, and directed to be circulated; a copy of which we herewith send you.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting.

by Abraham Sherman, jun. Clk

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 9th mo. last has been received at this time; and in the reading thereof, you have been affectionately brought to our remembrance and desires have been raised in our hearts that we may become instrumental in building each other up in the most holy faith, and in establishing all the members of the body upon the only sure foundation Christ Jesus.

We cordially unite with you in desiring "that all our dear Friends may be preserved in the faith of the Gospel;" we believe that this faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, as it duly operates in principle, and while it teaches us that through the efficacy of the one great offering made for all mankind, without the gate of Jerusalem, a door is opened for the redemption of all, it also inculcates us, that without repentance there is no remission of sins; and that, except we become regenerated, we cannot see the kingdom of Heaven. It is under the influence of this holy, spiritual principle, that our hearts become knitted into love, and it becomes our delight to do the law of the Lord.

Our Saviour declares, that as the branch cannot bear fruit except it abide in the Vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me; and the Apostle says, that God is love, and they that dwell in Him dwell in love. And in proportion as this love to God is promoted and cherished in our hearts, we shall feel that love for the brethren, which is declared to be the badge of true discipleship, and shall become qualified to labour in the Lord's vineyard, and feel an earnest engagement of Spirit for the prosperity of the Church and the enlargement of her borders. We believe that it was thro' the operation of this Divine love shed abroad in the heart, that our predecessors were called forth from the various denominations of professing Christians, to proclaim the glad tidings of the Gospel, in their original simplicity and purity, unsullied by the contrivances of man. Being drawn to the spirituality of true religion, they were led to see the utter insufficiency of all forms and ceremonies; and that, without that Baptism, which it was declared, was not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God, the baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire, they could never experience a change of heart.

We are comforted in believing that you are concerned that our ancient principles and testimonies should be faithfully maintained; and that you are still engaged to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. And we humbly believe, that as we keep near and give to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, there will be those preserved among us, who will not only be enabled to sound the alarm at the approach of the enemy, but who will be favoured to perceive his most subtle transformations.

The subject of slavery has at this time again claimed our attention, and our Meeting for Sufferings having produced an Address upon the subject to the members of our own, and other Christian communities, it was, with much unanimity, adopted by the Meeting, and directions given to have it printed for distribution. ——

1837. Much feeling and sympathy were expressed for this class of our fellow-beings, who are unjustly held in bondage, and earnest desires felt, that Friends may improve every right opportunity that may offer, for the promotion of sound Christian measures, for the removal of this cloud of guilt from our Land; But while our sympathy and feelings have thus been awakened, we have been desirous that all our members should keep in view, that the ground on which our Society has always acted, has been that of religious principle. — And may we not hope that as in all our movements in their cause, we are governed by that Wisdom which is profitable to direct, the time will yet come when the hearts of their oppressors will be inclined to humanity, and justice, and Slavery shall cease to be known in our Land.

In transacting the important concerns that have come before the Meeting at this time, much harmony and condescension have prevailed, and a precious evidence has been felt, that the wing of ancient Goodness has been near, and we have been made renewedly sensible that there is strength in a unity of exercise and a joint engagement of Spirit.

With the salutation of love, we remain Your Friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

In meeting together at this time to discharge the important duties of a Yearly Meeting, we have had humbly to acknowledge the continued goodness of the blessed Head of the Church. Though we came together in weakness and much fear, sensible of our many deficiencies, yet as we have been favoured to put our trust in the Lord, we have found strength graciously imparted, according to our wants, enabling us in much harmony, to decide upon the many weighty concerns claiming our attention.

On reading your acceptable Epistle, together with those from other Yearly Meetings, we have been afresh convinced of the benefit resulting from correspondence of this kind: the oneness of the principles and testimonies therein inculcated, affords conclusive evidence of the unity of the Spirit, in good degree bearing rule throughout this widely extended Society. Very fully do we accord to the exhortation of your Epistle, "that all our members, wherever scattered, may be found on the original foundation, Christ Jesus, the Rock of Ages". For other foundation can no man lay; we have no other hope towards God than that which is imparted to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the Author and Finisher of our Faith. He is not only the Foundation and Chief Corner Stone; but is emphatically declared to be our King, Priest and Prophet. We look up all things to the Church; our gracious High Priest, who, through the Eternal Spirit, offered himself once to God, to purge our consciences from dead works to serve in newness of life; and who now sitteth at the right hand of God, making intercession for us. As a Prophet, he is the Teacher of his people. As our cause,

1837. in the submission of little children, to sit under his holy teaching, or as disciples walk with him by the way, as shall know him to open and expound to us, in the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

"Whilst we desire ever to keep in view, the truth that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness; and that the Scriptures are a true and undoubted record of things necessary to be believed we do also maintain the important truth, that 'He who commanded the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts, to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.' Having therefore, those ample provisions for our wants in the various offices of our blessed Lord in behalf of his Church, we desire that this truth may be more abundantly manifested, that the excellency of the power is not of man, but of God; that it is he alone that can rightly qualify for every work and service. Whatever learning or talents, whatever wisdom or abilities, we may, as men possess, they must all pass through the fire of the Lord's altar, before they can be rightly brought in aid of his righteous cause."

"Among the interesting concerns which have claimed the attention of this Meeting, the subject of Slavery, that foul stain on our national character, has engaged its weighty deliberation. An Address on the subject, to our own and other Christian communities, from the Meeting for Sufferings, was adopted with great unanimity, and ordered to be extensively circulated."

"In relation to this deeply interesting subject, notwithstanding the dark and almost impenetrable cloud which hangs over the future, from the circumstance that the foundation of the whole system is so evidently laid in the gross corruption of the human heart, we are yet encouraged to hope, that as the members of our Society are concerned to keep a single eye to Him, who has power to change the hearts of men, that our efforts may yet be successfully directed, in aid of this greatly injured class of our fellow men."

"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

Abraham Sharpless, jun.r Clerk.

Information respecting Correspondents, from New York, 1837.

Isaac Upton is appointed Correspondent of Creek, N.C. N.Y. in Manford Quarterly Meeting, in the place of Reuben Hoxie, deceased. Address Poughkeepsie, Dutchess Co. New York.

Samuel Baker, of Hallowell Prince Edward District, Upper Canada, is appointed Correspondent of West Lake N.C. Meeting, in the place of Gilbert Dorland, deceased, and

Isaac Benedict, address Farmersville Post-Office, Town of Young, Leeds County, Upper Canada, is appointed Correspondent of Leeds N.C. Meeting, in the place of Silas Blanchard, released.

[For similar information, received, this year, from Indiana, see p. 12.]

1838. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-day, the 10th. and at Newport for Discipline, on

Second day morning, the 11th of 6th mo. 1838.

Accounts were received from our several Quarterly Meetings, and the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are: For Rhode Island, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Meader, David Buffum, Edmund Chase, John Wilbur, Benjamin Buffinton. For Salem, Jonathan Nichols, Micajah C. Pratt, Samuel Boyce, William Rogers, Enoch Page, John Page. — Sandwich, Barnabas Tabor, Prince Gardner, Edw.d P. Liddle, Zeno Kelley, Job Eddy, John Macomber. — Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Nathan Pope, Samuel Jones, John Robinson, Levi Meader. — Smithfield, Asa Kelley, Thomas Fry, John Milton Earle, Edward Foster. Wassalboro, Cornelius Douglas, Elijah Hussey, William Furr, Edmund Bates, Eli Jones, Joseph Tabor. Dover, William Hill, John Brown, Tobias Meader, Joshua Meader.

Whose names being called, they were all present, except one from Smithfield, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was assigned.

Having at this Meeting the company of our beloved friends Joseph John Gurney, of Great Britain; Stephen Grellett, of Burlington Monthly Meeting, New-Jersey; Joseph Bowne, of Buttermilk; Richard Mott, of Purchase, and John Wood, of New York Monthly Meeting, in the state of New-York; and John Scott, of Gunpowder Monthly Meeting, Maryland — satisfactory testimonials of the unity of their Friends with their ministry and present religious engagements, were presented and read. Those presented by our friend Joseph John Gurney were from the Monthly Meeting of Norwich, held 9th of 3d month; the Quarterly Meeting of Norfolk and Norwich, held 30th of the same, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, on the 22d & 23d of the 5th, and 3d of the 6th month, 1837.

We have also the company of our friends Henry Hinsdale, an Elder of New York Monthly Meeting, companion to Joseph John Gurney; Mahlon Day, of the same Monthly Meeting, Companion to John Scott; Eli Haines, an Elder of Redstone Monthly Meeting, Pennsylvania; and Charles Gifford, of Scipio Monthly Meeting, New-York, who presented satisfactory minutes from their respective Meetings.

The London General Epistle of last year, with an Epistle from that Meeting addressed to this, were received and read to our satisfaction. Acceptable Epistles from our friends of the Yearly Meetings of Ireland and Philadelphia were also read; and the Meeting then adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

1838.

Afternoon.

Friends again met, pursuant to adjournment.

Rowland Greene, on behalf of the Representatives informed the Meeting, that they had conferred together, and were united in proposing Abraham Shearman jun. for Clerk, and John Osborne, for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, and in accordance therewith, they were appointed to those services for the year ensuing.

The reading of the Epistles was resumed — embracing those from our friends of the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent not read in the morning sitting.

Thomas Hoxland, Rowland Greene, John Wilbur, John Meader, Samuel B. Tabor, William Jenkins, Samuel Boyce, David Buffum, Isaac Warren, Thomas Jones, John Osborne, Thomas Fry, of Boston, John Milton Earle, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Thomas Anthony, Stephen A. Chase, ~~Anthony~~ Chase, and George Howland, were requested to prepare, as way may open for it, essays of communications to the several Yearly Meetings of Friends with which we have usually corresponded; and produce them at a future sitting or sittings.

It appears that all our Quarterly Meetings have either paid, or given direction for the payment to our Treasurer of their respective proportions of stock, as requested last year.

We appoint Joseph Anthony, Micajah B. Pratt, Tiras Sandwell, Caleb Jones, Asa Kelley, Wm. Tabor, and Joshua Meader, to examine and settle the accounts of the Treasurer, and report the state thereof; also to consider of a sum to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and to propose a Treasurer.

By the accounts now received from the Quarterly Meetings, we are informed, that Salem has united with Salem Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Jonathan Nichols to the station of an Elder; that Sandwich has united with New Bedford Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Barnabas Tabor; with Sandwich in the appointment of Rhoda Bowerman; & with Nantucket in the appointment of Peleg Mitchell, to the station of Elders; and also with Sandwich Mo. Meeting, in approving the publick Ministry of Anna D. Wing; — that Fairhaven has united with Windham Mo. Meeting, in the appointment of David Allen, Elisha Jones, and Nancy Mansfield to the station of Elders. that Vassalborough has united with Vassalborough Mo. Meeting in approving the Publick ministry of Anna Bates, and with Sidney Mo. Meeting in the appointm.t of Chloe Douglas to the station of an Elder; and that Dover has united with Berwick Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Hannah Morrell and Ann Elmira Lang to the same station.

The Clerk informed, that agreeable to direction last year, he had placed in the hands of David Buffum, the Treasurer of this Meeting, the receipt of William Jenkins, the present Treasurer of the School Fund.

Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting having informed us in their account, that they are united in proposing for the

1838. consideration of this Meeting, a division of this Quarterly Meeting, & the separation of Sidney & Leeds Monthly Meetings therefrom, and that these Meetings constitute a new Quarterly Meeting by the name of "Fairfield," — Rowland Greene, Thos. Howland, Esther Gould, Abm. Shearman, jun. Silas Newhall, Thomas Anthony, John D. Lang, John Moader, Abial Akin, Daniel Cosgel, Thomas Jones, John Laye, Seth Miller, of Yarmouth, Hosea Varnum, James Tucker, Nathan Read of Lynn and Henry Chase, were appointed to take said proposition into consideration, and report thereon at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 12th.

Met according to adjournment.

The Representatives were all present, as yesterday, except one, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was assigned.

The Meeting entered upon a consideration of the state of Society, by reading the Queries, and the Answers thereto received from the several Quarterly Meetings, and proceeded therein as far as the 7th, inclusive, and then adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met, — and proceeded in the consideration of the state of Society, by reading the remainder of the Queries, and the Answers thereto.

During the time that has been thus occupied, in the former as well as in the present sitting, a covering has been spread over the Meeting, under the influence of which we have been made to rejoice, in the feeling that notwithstanding our many backslidings, — that stripped and peeled as we are, — we are not yet forsaken by the Great Head of the Church; but that in condescending goodness, He is still disposed to be with us and to do us good; and that 'in returning and rest' we may still be permitted to have hope in His continued mercies.

Much of pertinent counsel and caution was feelingly imparted, by concerned Friends, now with us; and we were affectionately exhorted, in the love of the Gospel, to 'be watchful and strengthen the things that remain, that are ready to die.' That the Church endeavouring, through holy help, to edify itself, together in love, may enter into a deep travail of spirit for a qualification to labour for the removal of every hurtful thing from within its borders; and especially, for the restoration of love and unity in cases of sorrowful departure from this pure badge of discipleship, that have been deeply injected to many minds; and that the members of the church individually, may be concerned, in preference to every other pursuit, to seek 'first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness.' Then, we were feelingly reminded, should we cease to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, for the solemn object, the reasonable duty, of worshipping our Father who is in Heaven; and that being commanded together in the bonds of Brotherly love, we should be enabled unitedly to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

Parents were tenderly exhorted to watch, with affectionate solicitude, over the minds of their children, and to seek in seasons of religious retirement with them, for ability rightly to dis-

1838 charge the very important duty of teaching them diligently in the way that they should go: and the dear children were fervently entreated not to give way to any feeling that would lead them to withdraw themselves from under parental control, and to pursue a course of action independent of the counsel and advice of those who are thus set over them for their good; but to bear in continued remembrance the impressive injunction: 'Children obey your parents in the Lord. For this is right. — Honour thy father and thy mother, which is the first commandment with promise.'

And that all of every age may endeavour practically to bear in mind, that to the same extent that we are living members of the true church we are members also one of another and shall be led to consult its peace, by being kindly affectioned one toward another, and preferring one another in love.

A frequent perusal of the Holy Scriptures, with minds rightly turned to Him, under the influence of whose Spirit they were given forth — The restraints of Divine grace, operating upon the mind, in ordering our conduct and conversation among men; — an attention to its influence in restraining the perusal of improper books; — a careful regulation of our outward concerns by the limitations of Truth; and a faithful maintenance on Christian grounds, of the simplicity of our profession in behaviour, speech, and apparel — were subjects among others, that were also feelingly touched upon.

And our dear absent Brethren being brought into affectionate remembrance, with desires that they may be enabled to participate, in some degree, in the exercises that have engaged the attention of Friends, the Clerk was directed to forward copies of this Minute, with the other Extracts, to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

The following Summary embraces the substance of the Answers received:

1. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended. (with exceptions noticed in one of the accounts) of one, five, and several small Meetings, and generally by the greater part of Friends; yet there is a deficiency with some in this important duty, more particularly in regard to mid-week meetings, and one accounts, that they continue to be neglected by many. — The hour is generally observed. — A few instances of sleeping. — Other misbehaviour mostly guarded against. — Most of the accounts notice an extension of care in regard to deficiencies. ——— 2. Love and unity appear to be generally maintained, yet exceptions are noticed in most of the answers. Care is important with most Friends to guard against dissension, yet in some instances it appears to be too much indulged. Care is taken to end differences. ——— 3. A concern appears to be maintained by most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and to be exemplary therein themselves; but there is in some instances a great departure from the simplicity of our profession in these respects. — The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most families. ——— 4. Friends, except in a few instances, appear careful to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes; and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort. Moderation and temperance are generally observed on the occasions referred to. ——— 5. The circumstances of the poor have been attended to. A few children have been placed

1838. from under the care of Friends; some instances of which are beyond the control of Society. ——— 6. Friends are generally careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline; yet some deviations are noticed in most of the accounts. ——— 7. Friends are careful, as far as appears, to maintain our testimonies embraced in this Query, with exceptions noticed in two of the answers, of a few instances of a military nature; and in one, of a few exceptions in regard to Friends' wages, in which our testimony has not been fully maintained. ——— 8. Most Friends appear to be careful in attending to the requisitions of this Query; although there have been several instances of failure in business, and a want of care with some in inspecting their affairs and settling their accounts, and of living within the bounds of their circumstances; & some care taken. ——— 9. Marriages, with one exception, have been duly recorded. Births, deaths and burials, some of the answers state, are not so fully attended to. A few removals without certificate, mostly under notice. ——— 10. Care is generally taken to deal with offenders in a good degree as queried; yet from some of the answers it appears that there is a falling short in the discharge of this important duty. — & concern is maintained to place judgment according to Discipline.

The annual Report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read. John Warren, Joseph Davis, Thomas Thin, Isa Kelly, John Hilton Earle, Nathan Pope, William Hill, Oliver Bonwell, Edmund Chase, Wm. Hallowell, Edward P. Tobie, Caleb Paine, Thos. M. Eddy, Nathan Dowd of Hearo, Jonathan Beede, Cornelius Douglass, Moses T. Rogers, Stephen A. Chase, Stephen Gould, and Alden Sopd, were appointed to consider the several suppositions therein contained, and report at a future sitting.

The account of the Superintendent, accompanying the Report, was also read.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee report, "That they have continued, during the past year, to give their attention to the various concerns of the Institution. Meetings for Divine worship have been regularly held, and harmony has prevailed. During the past autumn the School was visited, in common with the neighbourhood, with Scarlet Fever, which attacked a large number of the inmates of the Institution, and proved fatal in two instances. In consequence of this solemn dispensation, many of the scholars returned to their homes, and did not subsequently re enter the school; tho' for the past four months the family and scholars have been favoured with the enjoyment of usual good health. The average number of scholars during the past year has been seventy nine.

Our friends Richard & Alice Rathbun are employed as Instructors and Matron; and James Austin and James L. Hale as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Emeline Aldrich & Elizabeth H. Corbin in the Girls'. George F. Read has charge of instruction in the Languages, and assists in keeping the Books; & Freelove Evans continues to act as a care-taker of the Girls, and to attend to the sewing School. Moses B. Lockwood, who has

Copy of Superintendent's Acc
read

Dr. Yearly Meeting Boarding School in acc^t with Rowland Rathbun Superintend^t Cr.

1837					1838			
4mo: 28	To Balance on settlement			$ 19.29	4mo: 27	By amt received from		
	To payment of outstanding debts of last year			3445.85		the Treasurer	$ 7431	68
	To Amt of expenditures since 4mo: 28th 1837 viz					" amt received for board		
	" Salaries	$ 2401	19			and tuition of scholars, advance		
	" Books and Stationary	485	72			to them & from visiters	6554	13
	" Labour	1277	84			" Amt now due for salaries		
	" Repairs and furniture	845	82			and labour 30.43		
	" Fuel — wood 540.61					" Amt due to others 287.60	1238	03
	Anthracite coal 387.90							
	Charcoal 83.85	1012	36					
	" Flour	1192	20					
	" Butter	746	88					
	" Cheese	75	04					
	" Lard	18	34					
	" Meat	495	07					
	" Fish	54	78					
	" Hay, Grain &c	775	52					
	" Bread	270	50					
	" Sugar	280	81					
	" Molasses	202	93					
	" Tea	46	35					
	" Coffee	68	06					
	" Lamp oil	134	68					
	" Vegetables	133	29					
	" Medicines	22	78					
	" Soap and Soda	85	25					
	" Post Office	71	36					
	" Articles for scholars	559	93					
	" Money refunded and due scholars	333	08					
	" Incidentals	125	84	11.715.62				
	To Balance to new acc^t			43.08				
				$ 15.223,84			$ 15.223	84

1838
4mo: 27 By Balance brought down $ 43 08

Errors Excepted - Providence 4th mo: 27th 1838
(Signed) Rowland Rathbun Sup^{en}

1838. mostly Girls the Institution has been employed a principal teacher in the Boys School during most of the last years.

The Committee have from time to time had under their consideration the propriety of dividing the year into two terms, with a vacation at the close of each term instead of continuing under our present arrangement. Many advantages it has appeared to them would result from adopting this plan. It was, for several years, been a desirable object to enable the Teachers to introduce a better classification of the scholars in their various studies than has been practicable under the existing system of admission at irregular intervals, and which they have believed would much facilitate their improvement. It has appeared to the Committee reasonable, that the health of the Teachers should be consulted by affording them such cessation from their employment as would result from the adoption of this arrangement. The consideration that the health of all the inmates of the Institution may be promoted by a more thorough cleansing of the house, twice in each year, than can be effected whilst its various apartments continue to be occupied, has also had much weight with them.

They are therefore united in proposing to the Yearly Meeting, that the year be divided into two terms of twenty four weeks each, each term to be succeeded by a vacation of two weeks: the Summer term to commence on the second day preceding the first fifth day in the fifth month, and the Winter term on the second day preceding the first fifth day in the eleventh month; and that the last week of each term be occupied in an examination of the Schools by Committees from time to time especially appointed to that service by the general School Committee.

Should this arrangement be approved by the Yearly Meeting, it will be expected that children shall enter the School at the commencement of each term; and consequently that the time of their continuance there, shall not, except under peculiar circumstances, and the approbation of the Acting Committee being first had, include a part of a term.

While this arrangement would, in the view of the Committee, be of essential advantage to the School, they are induced to believe that, when once carried into operation, it would not materially affect the convenience of parents. As for the greater number of children from the more distant parts of the Yearly Meeting now enter the School for a term of six months; and may stay from any quarter more than for a longer time, without making a visit to their friends. In cases, however, where great inconvenience is likely to arise to parents or children from the adoption of this plan, should any such present, the Committee will endeavour to make arrangements for their accommodation.

The Treasurers and Superintendents accounts have been audited, by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded its expenditures by £ 13 15. 2 8/12 and that the present indebtedness of the Institution is £ 381 3. 3 7/12. For more particular information of the expenditures we refer to a copy of the Superintendents account herewith presented. The pecuniary situation of the School will not, we think, warrant any reduction in the terms of admission from those concluded on last year; and we therefore propose that the price for members of Society, of our Yearly Meeting, be thirty three

1838. dollars per term;— For those who are not members of Society, who may be admitted, and are both of whose parents are members, forty five dollars per term; and for members of other Yearly Meetings, fifty dollars per term, payable in advance. Books and Stationary being furnished, as during the past year, at actual cost; with the understanding, that when Scholars leave the School, the Books with which they have been supplied may be returned, by their paying for the use of them.

Seven Scholars have received the benefit of the charitable fund, and by the terms of the Will of the principal donor, claims to the amount of $131 11/100 have been provided for, leaving a balance unexpended of about $80.— and supposing the income of this fund to continue the same, the ensuing year, the amount will be about $480.— which will support fourteen Scholars one term each; and it is proposed that such Monthly Meetings as have children who are proper objects of this Charity, should make immediate application to the Acting School Committee for their admission.

We have continued to appoint Committees to visit the School, and attend to the examination of the Scholars in their various studies, once in six months. From the Report of the Committee who visited the School in the third month last, made to us at this time, we think it may be satisfactory for us to make the following extract.— The Committee to visit and examine the Schools report. that a number of them met at the time appointed, and proceeded to examine the Scholars in most or all the branches in which their attention had been engaged; and we feel free to acknowledge that we have cause to be thankful for the proficiency manifested by them in their various exercises, it being evident that they, as well as their Teachers, have been mindful of their duty, and that their attention has not been exclusively confined to improvement in literary and scientific studies, but that the more important pursuit of life, the attainment of piety and virtue, had not been overlooked. The deportment and general appearance of the Scholars were much to our satisfaction, and the harmony that manifestly prevails throughout the family is an evidence that the Institution is still under the care of Him who is able to preserve.

Signed, by direction and on behalf of the Committee,

Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

Boarding School, 5th Mo. 4th, 1838.

Having at this Meeting the company of our beloved friends Sarah C. Hawkshurst, of New York Monthly Meeting; Hannah H. Dally, of Marlborough Monthly Meeting, Vermont; and Uriah Gifford, of Scipio Monthly Meeting, New York; with satisfactory certificates of the unity of their friends with their Ministry and present religious engagements, were read at this sitting

Adjourned to the 11th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth day, morning, the 13th.

Again met according to adjournment.

The Representatives were all present but one.

The Committee to which was referred the proposition from Wastebourough, for a division of Stock, and the establishment

1838. of a new Quarterly Meeting, within its present limits, produced the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting. — The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the proposition from Nassaboro' Quarterly Meeting, report, that they are united in proposing to the Yearly Meeting that a Committee be appointed to visit that Quarterly Meeting, & the Monthly Meetings composing it, and to report their sense & judgment of the propriety of agreeing to the proposition, to the Yearly Meeting, next year. On behalf of the Committee,

Thos. Howland,
Mary A. Collins.

Newport, 9mo. 22d. 1838.

which being considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and in conformity therewith, John T. Long, John Meader, Thomas Jones, John Wilbur, John Brown, Esther Rowhall, Nathan Lee, Stephen Gould, Nathan Bicede, of Lynn, and Thomas Anthony, were appointed to visit said Meetings as proposed, and report to this Meeting next year. And the several Monthly Meetings of Nassaboro' Quarter were requested to make such arrangements in the time of holding them, as will best accommodate the Committee in their visits to them, respectively.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year, to receive from the Executors of our late beloved friend, Moses Brown, a Note of hand and Mortgage, and for other purposes therein referred to, produced the following report:—

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England

"We your Committee, appointed in the sixth month last, to receive of the Executors of our late friend Moses Brown a Note of hand and Mortgage for Fifteen thousand dollars and deliver the same to the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting's Boarding School Fund, and to execute any necessary discharges to said Executors, Report, that we have attended to the several duties of our appointment, and have received of the Executors aforesaid the Note and Mortgage for Fifteen Thousand Dollars, and have delivered the same to William Jenkins, Treasurer of the School Fund, taking his receipt therefor, which we herewith present.

(Signed,) Moses Farnum,
Stephen Gould,
Thos. Howland,
Jonathan Congdon,
Samuel Boyd Tobey."

"Providence, 5th of 12th month, 1837.

"Providence, 12th month 5, 1837.

"Received of Moses Farnum, Stephen Gould, Jonathan Congdon, Thomas Howland and Samuel Boyd Tobey, a Committee of the Yearly Meeting appointed in the 6th month last, to receive of the Executors of our late friend Moses Brown, and deliver the same to me as the Treasurer of the School Fund, a Note of hand and Mortgage Deed, securing the payment thereof, signed by Joseph Mawes, Henry Holden, Joshua B. Wood, and John Brewer, for the sum of Fifteen thousand Dollars, given by the said Moses Brown in his last Will to the Yearly Meeting for the purposes therein specified — Which I hold, subject to the order and direction of the Yearly Meeting.

(Signed,) William Jenkins, Treasurer of the School Fund.

1838. which, with the accompanying receipt from the Treasurer of the School Fund, was satisfactory to this Meeting, and the Clerk was directed, after placing said receipt on record, to deposit it with the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year, were read. And the attention which they manifest to the various interesting subjects that have engaged the attention of Friends of that Meeting, is satisfactory to this.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again assembled, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on the removal of the Yearly Meeting, produced the following Report:

"To the Yearly Meeting: The Committee appointed in 1836, to consider of a suitable place for the location of our Yearly Meeting, when it may be removed from this Island, have, from time to time, deliberated in much harmony on the important subject of their appointment, and as no place has hitherto been presented to the view of the Committee, with satisfactory clearness, they have at this time, with entire unanimity, come to the conclusion to report, that no way has opened to make any definite proposition to the Yearly Meeting, relative to the place of its location.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Fry,

Newport, 6mo 12, 1838. Mary B. Allen."

which being read and weightily considered, it was concluded with much unanimity, to accept the report of the Committee, and to release them from further attention to the subject.

This Meeting having, as by minute of last year, requested the Meeting for Sufferings to select a suitable place for the safe-keeping of the Yearly Meeting's Records and other Books and Papers, and to appoint some Friend to have charge of them, we are now informed that the Chest in which they are contained has been placed in the Fire-Proof Building of Abm. B. Brown, at Providence, under the care of William Jenkins, which is satisfactory to us; and the Meeting for Sufferings is desired to extend any further care in the case that they may deem necessary.

John Warren, Thomas Rowland, Caleb Nichols, Thos. Anthony, John Brown, John D. Lang, Wm. Jenkins, Isaac R. Gifford, Lem. Jones, John Meader, Esek Newhall, Cornelius Congdon, Prince Gardner, Delta B. Sedgwick, Nathan B. Crouch, jun., Ichabod Cook, Jon.a Nichols, Paul Wing, Francis Tabor, Edm.d Rhode, Nathan Page, Wm. Reynolds, David Buffum, John Milton Earle, John Wilbur, Edmund Cater, James M. Fry, Wm. Hill and Nathan Page, were appointed a Committee, to consider of and produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a School Committee for the year ensuing, — to act therein in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting. And also, to bring forward the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings.

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare essays of minutes or endorsements for our Friends now with us from abroad, and present them at a future sitting.

1838.

Dover Quarterly Meeting having informed us, that in consequence of a communication from one of their Monthly Meetings, on the subject of Slavery, they had concluded to propose for the consideration of this Meeting, "the propriety of memorialising Congress for its abolition in those parts under their immediate control;" the subject claimed the deliberate attention of the Meeting, as one possessing much interest in the minds of Friends, but way did not open for further action upon it, at the present time.

Dover Quarterly Meeting also informed us, that their Select Quarterly Meeting had proposed an alteration in the time of holding that Meeting, from the 11th hour in the morning, to the 2d in the afternoon, of the days on which it is now held. This Meeting united therewith; and the Clerk was directed to forward a copy of this Minute to said Quarterly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 14th.

Again met, according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the several propositions contained in the Report of the Boarding School Committee, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting. — The Committee to whom was referred the propositions contained in the Report of the School Committee, have had the same under consideration, and have concluded to recommend, that the Yearly Meeting adopt that in relation to dividing the year into two terms of twenty four weeks each, with vacations of two weeks each between them; & recommend that Friends conform themselves thereto in sending their children to the Schools. It is however considered by this Committee to be desirable that a liberal construction should be given to the rule providing for admission for not less than six months, in favour of such as may wish to go for a shorter term, to complete that time they proposed to spend at the Schools.

"And after some discussion, it was agreed to recommend that the terms of board & tuition, be proposed by the School Committee, be adopted.

On behalf of the Committee,

Stephen A. Chase,

6th month 13th, 1838. Alice Chase."

which being considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Clerk was directed to append this Report to that of the Boarding School Committee, when transmitted to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends appointed last year, to visit subordinate Meetings and individuals as occasion might require, and to encourage them to the preservation of love and unity, and the maintenance of our Christian principles & testimonies, — Report, — That the Committee have been attentive to the duties of their appointment, and that some portions of the Committee have, at different times, visited all the Quarterly Meetings, & some of the Monthly Meetings composing them, and have endeavoured as way opened for it, to promote the objects of their appointment; and are induced to believe that their labours of love were not in vain. —

The case specially referred to their attention, existing in one of the

1838. Quarterly Meetings, was carefully inquired into, and in connection with a Committee of that Quarter, a course of measures was recommended to the Monthly Meeting where the difficulty originally commenced, which resulted in the termination of the subject.

And the Committee in contemplating on the state of Society, are induced to suggest for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting, the appointment of a Committee for similar services, at the present time.

On behalf of the Committee,

Thomas Howland,

Lydia " Breed.

which being considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Friends now under appointment were continued in that service for another year, to proceed therein as way may open, and best wisdom direct, and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

A memorial of Weare Monthly Meeting concerning our late friend Thomas Davis, with a Note appended thereto by the Meeting for Sufferings, was read, and being approved, was directed to be recorded.

The Committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Committee for the government & superintendence of the Boarding School, produced the following, viz.

1	Rowland Greene,	Thomas Jones,	Arnold Congdon	Seth Kelley,
2	Nicholas Congdon,	Caleb Shaw	James M. Fry,	of Yarmouth
3	Abijah Chase	Thomas Fry, Bolton,	Samuel Boyce,	Josiah Jones,
5	Wm Jenkins,	Silas Earle,	John Meader,	John Howland, jun
	Walter Allen	Moses Farnum,	David Shove,	Peace Peck
	Joseph Metcalf	Thomas Anthony	Elijah Fobes	Allen Alling
	James Fowler	Wm Reynolds	Lloyd Ware,	Enoch Breed,
	David Buffum	Samuel Boyd Foley,	Wm A Robinson,	Daniel Swift
	Francis Baker	Daniel Johnson	Dutee B. Aldrich	John D. Lang
	Jon.a Davis	George Howland	Samuel Wing	Jethro H. Mitchell
	John Brown	Harvey Chase	Ebenezer Wing	Robert Brown
	William Cobb	Jon.a Nichols,	Abraham Potter	John M. Earle
	Thos Howland	Wm Mitchell	Abijah Johnson,	Moses Starkey
	Stephen A. Chase,	Stephen Jones, jun.	Justin Macomber,	Stephen Gould
4	John Cottrell	Joseph Davis	Nathan Breed,	Abraham Barker,
	Rowland Robbins	Isaac R. Tifford	of Lyon.	of Tiverton
	John Osborne	Edward Wing	Benjamin Fry	Thomas Hankness
	Daniel Clapp	Moses Aldrich	William Bassett,	Samuel Jones
	Abm Hearman, Jr.	Jon.a Congdon	Moses H. Brooks,	Prince Gardner.

which being acceptable to the Meeting, they were appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment, to act therein in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting; — and were requested to report next year.

The Friends appointed, as by minute of last year, to correspond with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, on the condition of the Indian Tribes residing beyond the Mississippi, reported that they had not proceeded further in that appointment than to open a correspondence with Friends of N. York Yearly Meeting on this subject. They were continued under appointment for another year, and requested to give such further attention to the concern as way may open for, and report to this Meeting next year.

1838

The following Friends having been proposed by the Committee to whom that subject was referred, were appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, or till another appointment, viz:

Rowland Greene,	John Brown	Stephen Gould	John Mowder
John Marvin,	Stephen A Chase	Abijah Chase	Arnold Congdon
Stephen Jones	James N Fry	Caleb Nichols	George Rowland
Francis Tabor	Edward Mann	Peter Peck	Nathan Pope
William Robbs	Benjamin Fry	Prince Gardner	Seth Pelley, of
Walter Allen	Nicholas Congdon	William Reynolds	Yarmouth
Thomas Moulton	Thomas Anthony	Daniel Johnson	Sam'l Boyd Tobey
James Tucker	William Manter	Moses Starkey	John D Lang
Abr'm Manchester, Jr.	John Osborne	Moses Farnum	Moses H Beede
Rowland Rathbun	William Jenkins	Joseph Metcalf	Samuel Taylor, jun.
Estes Newhall	Jonathan Dennis	Andrew Nichols	and
Matthew Purinton	David Buffum	Thomas Fry Walton	Edmund Chase

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, produced the following Report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

Agreeably to appointment we have examined and settled the accounts of the Treasurer and find them correctly cast, and the charges satisfactorily vouched for. There is now in the Treasury a balance of $332.31. We would recommend that the sum of thirteen hundred dollars be raised for the use of the Yearly Meeting, the year ensuing, and would propose David Buffum for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

Micajah C. Pratt.

Newport, 6m°. 13th. 1838.

Which being read and considered was satisfactory to Friends, and in conformity therewith David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing, and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of $1300, the sum proposed to be raised, viz: Rhode Island 30% Salem 12½ — Sandwich, 30 — Falmouth 4¾ — Smithfield 12½ — Nassaboro, 4 — and Dover 6¼ %.

The company and religious services of our esteemed Friends Stephen Gallatt, Joseph Bowne, Richard Mott, John Wood and John Scott, have been acceptable to us; as has also the company of our Friends Henry Hinsdale, Marlon Day, Eli Haines, and Charles Gifford, and the Clerk was directed to furnish them with copies of this minute, as it relates to each, signed on our behalf.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

First day morning, the 13th. Friends again assembled, pursuant to adjournment.

The Representatives who have heretofore been in attendance were all present but two, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was assigned.

It appearing by the Report of the School Committee, that that the charitable fund will support fourteen scholars one term each, Monthly Meetings that have children who are suitable objects of this charity, are requested to make immediate application to the Acting School Committee for their admission, and the Representatives from the Quarterly Meetings are requested to lay this minute before their several Monthly Meetings; that such Children may be in readi-

1838 ness to enter the School at the commencement of the Winter term, which in the present year will begin on the 29th of Tenth month.

The Committee on the concerns of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee on the concerns of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, report, That a part of the Committee have paid a visit to some of the Islands occupied by that Tribe of Natives, & found some improvement and enlargement in their agricultural pursuits. On account of the season, there was not a full crop of Corn for the past year, but their crop of Potatoes was large; in the judgment of Friends who visited them, 4 or 5000 bushels; and which the Agent of the State of Maine thought would be as many as would be required for their use. There has been no additional frame building erected during the past year. There has no way yet opened to establish Schools among them; there is however an evident improvement in the arts of civilized life in this Tribe.

"The Legislature of Maine at their late Session granted to the Indian Tribes within their limits, a bounty of 20 cents for every bushel of Wheat raised by them; 10 cents per bushel for all other grains; and 5 cents per bushel on all roots, such as potatoes, turnips, beets, &c.

"There will not be needed any appropriation of money on account of this service, the present year.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

John Warren,

Newport, 6th. mo. 13th. 1838. Caleb Nichols.

—which being read, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Friends now under appointment, with the addition of Edmund Cates, were encouraged to persevere in their efforts for the amelioration of their condition, and to promote as far as way may open for it, their moral and religious improvement, and the institution of Schools among them; — and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

Essays of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, were produced by the Committee appointed for that purpose, and being read and approved, were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and transmitted to those Meetings, respectively.

The Committee appointed to have the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence were desired to take the necessary care of such bequests of our late Friend Moses Brown, for the benefit of said School, as are not otherwise provided for by this Meeting.

Having been again permitted, through the continued goodness of our heavenly Father, to meet in this our annual Assembly, and while humbled under a sense of our unworthiness, we would

1838. thankfully acknowledge that we have been mercifully favoured thro' its various sittings, with a renewed evidence that the Lord has not forgotten to be gracious, and that under as we trust the influences of his love, we have been comforted and edified together, and have been enabled to transact the various important concerns of Society that have engaged our attention in much brotherly harmony. Under a grateful sense whereof we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting, —

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, from the 10th to the 15th inclusive, of the Sixth month, 1838.

To the Yearly Meetings of Friends.

In London.

Dear Friends,

We have been again permitted, through the continued goodness of our Heavenly Father, to meet in our annual assembly, and while prostrated under a sense of our unworthiness, we would thankfully acknowledge that we have been mercifully favoured with a renewed evidence that the Lord has not forgotten to be gracious; and that under, as we trust, the sensible influences of his love, we have been comforted and edified together.

Watchfulness unto prayer is a constant Christian duty, made imperative by our blessed Lord, and which all his followers realize in their experience to be necessary to their preservation. From a want of humble, dependent watchfulness, how great has been the loss sustained by members of the Christian church in every age; and we have felt that the present is a day that loudly calls upon us to watch and be sober; to examine the foundation upon which we are building, and to know individually that we are resting upon that rock which is immutable, even Christ Jesus.

We have greatly desired that our beloved Friends of every class, and wherever situated, may know their minds to be settled and grounded in the unchangeable truth as it is in Jesus; that none may through weakness or temptation be led to depart from the doctrines and principles of Christianity as held by our religious society; — abundantly confirmed as we are, that they are in accordance with the blessed truths contained in Holy Writ, and consonant with the teachings of the Spirit of Truth upon the heart; — but that with humble steadfastness we may be favoured to look unto the unfailing source from whence alone strength is to be derived for ability faithfully to maintain them.

Among the important Christian doctrines professed by us, our testimony to the spirituality of Divine worship, and the necessary, immediate qualification from the Holy Head of the Church, for its right performance, has appeared to us at this time peculiarly precious, and a lively concern has been raised in our minds, that in the discharge

1838. of this great duty we may not on the one hand be beguiled into a formal activity, or on the other into a listless indifference; but that under the quickening influences of the Holy Spirit we may be favoured to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God; and that as this anointing qualifies, & this only, prayer, praise and thanksgiving may be offered unto his ever great and excellent name.

The individual practice of frequent retirement to wait upon the Lord, we desire affectionately to recommend to all,— believing that as they faithfully perform this solemn & interesting duty, they will not fail to experience the verification of the ancient promise that their strength shall be renewed. May our dear young friends, in an especial manner, both among you and us, be concerned to be found diligent in this practice; may they be willing to devote portions of every day to it; and thus, we are confirmed in believing, they will be favoured to know that heavenly support which will be preserving to them in their intercourse with their fellow men in the various occupations of life.

We have received at this time your acceptable Epistle of last year. We cordially reciprocate the sentiment expressed in it of the lively interest you have felt and continue to feel, on behalf of the victims of slavery in our land. The subject has long claimed our very serious attention, and we have felt deeply concerned to be found faithfully performing all that the Lord requires at our hands, on behalf of this much injured portion of the human family.

We have at this time the acceptable company of several of our beloved friends from different Yearly Meetings on this continent, and of our dear friend Joseph John Gurney from your country.

With the salutations of love, we are your Friends.
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting,
by Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Through the continued mercies of our Holy Head, we have been favoured to meet again, in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, and it has been a source of consolation to us, once more to see one another's faces, and to renew our covenant together, in the Lord, as in former years; yet many exercised minds among us, have had, measurably to drink of the cup which our Lord told his disciples that they should drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism wherewith he said unto them, that they should be baptized; and through which, we trust, the fellowship of his sufferings has not been wholly unknown. In reviewing the state of Society, as presented by the answers to the Queries, an apprehension, that too many under our name have suffered their minds to be di[illegible] from that watchful principle of Divine grace in the heart, which leads to the upholding of our precious testimonies, is truly cause of mourning to many.

1838. Your very acceptable Epistle of last year was received and read in this Meeting, and the nearness thereby conveyed, that in your Annual Meeting you had been favoured to experience a degree of the overshadowing of that Power, which first raised us up to be a people, and that there are yet preserved among you, such as are concerned to be faithful in the support of our ancient Christian testimonies; has been a strength and cause of thankfulness to us; and our fervent desire and prayer to the God and Father of all our sure mercies, through Christ Jesus, is, that those testimony bearers, both with you and with us, may continue to be faithful in the blessed cause of the Lamb's warfare; against all that is evil, and all that would bind in any degree to turn them aside from the cross of Christ, or from the doctrines and covenants of his unfailing promises, or from that faith which was once delivered to the saints, and for which our forefathers so nobly contended; that those who have been hitherto preserved, may hold fast the profession of this faith, without wavering, continue to be the stand of many exercised minds in this land.

But how needful, dear friends, that those may where, during the trials that may be permitted to assail them, should keep the word of God's patience, and watch unto prayer; that so they may be preserved from erring, either on the right hand or on the left, that their eyes may be anointed of Him, who not only gave himself for them, but hath ascended on high, led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. And oh! that these heavenly gifts, which we trust continue to be bestowed upon the believing children, may be exercised with all lowliness and meekness, in the fear of the Lord, and with singleness of heart; and thus as the eye is directed to Him alone, we are still encouraged to hope, that clearness of vision will be mercifully witnessed by those who look unto Christ Jesus, and of whom it was testified that in Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

And now, dear friends, how instructive and consoling the concluding salutation of the Apostle, to one of the churches: "Finally, brethren, be perfect, be of one mind in the Lord, live in love, and the God of love and peace shall be with you." Farewell.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends.

We are once more permitted to address you in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and to renew our desires for our mutual preservation under the protecting care of the great Head of the Church; and to Him we commend you with ourselves, desiring that we may be the sheep of his pasture, even of the flock of Christ's companions. When thus assembled on these solemn occasions, the inquiry into the state of each of their spiritual health is ever an interesting and important concern. "Are we in health?" is indeed a question of momentous interest. Is our reliance solely placed on the great Head of the Church for preservation? Is our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ unwavering? Do we seek the aid of his Holy Spirit to direct us? Do we rely on the mercy of God through Him for salvation? Are we gov-

1838 owned by this Year in our daily walk? And that fruits of this Spirit — love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance, manifest amongst us in our intercourse with each other and with the world? Do we follow after charity, which suffereth long and is kind; which envieth not; which vaunteth not itself; which rejoiceth in the truth, & which never faileth? — Upon faithful self-examination in the light of truth, we find these things in measure to be possessed by us, then is there great cause for humble gratitude to our gracious Preserver: and if we are sensible of many deficiencies, still may our faith fail not, but may our trust be in the continued goodness of the Lord.

We have received your acceptable Epistle of 4th mo. last, the reading of which, with those from our dear Friends in other sections of that country, and from London and Ireland, renewedly produced a cementing effect upon our minds, and we have felt that we are all brethren of the same household of faith, and our desires are that the bond of union may be more & more strengthened.

As with you, the situation of our fellow men of the coloured race continues to occupy our serious consideration, and we deeply feel for them and crave that under the influence of the principles of universal love we may embrace every right opening to promote the freedom of this oppressed people.

Our meeting has been large, and we humbly trust has been owned by the great Master of Christian assemblies, through its various sittings; many of our beloved young Friends have been present, a large portion of whom, by their exemplary deportment have given evidence of being under the preparing hand for usefulness in the Church.

With the salutation of love, We are your Friends,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting,
by Abraham L. Sharman, jun. Clerk.

To New York.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 5th month last has been received at this time, and in the reading thereof, you have been brought affectionately to our remembrance.

During the sittings of that Meeting we have been renewedly made sensible, that unaided by the influence of the Holy Spirit, we can do nothing for the promotion of the cause of Truth, and that it is only as we look unto Him, who is strength in weakness, and riches in poverty, that we can be properly qualified to transact the affairs of the Church.

At the present, it has appeared to us, it is a time which calls for the humble Christian to put on the whole armour of God, that he may be enabled to stand against the wiles of the enemy. The great adversary of man is still going about seeking whom he may devour; and in consideration thereof we have earnestly desired that we may all be engaged to examine ourselves, to know upon what foundation we are building, and from whence arising

1838 all our motives of action. Are we of Christ, or, are we of the world? Do we, dear Friends, know him to have arisen in our hearts, there to take the government, to reign and rule over us by his Spirit? Have we in consideration of the unutterable mercy of our heavenly Father in sending his beloved Son into the world, to offer himself a ransom for all mankind, become broken in spirit and contrited before him. It is under an humbling sense of his boundless mercy that our hearts are melted into love, and we become cemented together in the bonds of true discipleship, striving for the Faith of the Gospel. Let us then, dear Friends, all become diligently engaged to lay aside every thing that would obstruct the free circulation of this love. Let us earnestly endeavour to be found watching unto prayer, looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself, for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. ——— We believe that as we are concerned above every other consideration to become obedient to the teachings and guidance of this Spirit, and in our whole dependence is placed upon Him, that the victory will be given us, and there will be those preserved in our borders, who will be enabled to sound an alarm at the approach of the enemy, even in his most subtle transformations.

The subject of Slavery has at this time claimed our serious consideration, and we cordially, reechoed to the sentiment contained in your Epistle, that in all our movements for the removal thereof, we may be governed by that Wisdom which is profitable to direct. Under this influence, we believe we should be concerned, that we might not substitute the zeal and restlessness of the creature for the leadings and putting forth of the Great Shepherd, and that in whatever movement we make in the cause, we should make no compromise with the world of any of our principles or testimonies. ——— And while we can rejoice in all the laudable efforts made by others for the amelioration of the condition of the Slave, we have greatly desired that we may remember, that we must be led by our own Master; for the admonition given to a disciple formerly, remains to be the watchword for us in the present day — "Follow thou me." Were this to become the serious engagement of, of our minds, we believe that He who pulleth down and setteth up the Kingdoms of men, and who can carry on his work by many or by few, would in his own time and in his own way make us instrumental in hastening the coming of that day when Liberty shall be proclaimed to the captive and the oppressed go free.

The various Indian Tribes who are now located on the Western side of the Mississippi River, have appeared to us, in having them duly & feelingly to our remembrance, to have strong claims upon the sympathy of Friends, as Christians & Philanthropists. We are desirous that these claims may be kept in view, and as way may open for it, a united concern to act in their behalf, may spread in the minds of Friends, every where. And we cherish the belief that so acting, our endeavours may be blessed to their good, and our own satisfaction and peace. Our Committee appointed last year to correspond with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings upon this subject, is continued.

With the salutation of love, we remain,
Your Friends & Brethren.
Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,
by Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

1838.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Through unmerited mercy we are once more permitted to meet in this our annual assembly; and have been favoured to transact the important concerns that have come before us, in much harmony and brotherly love. And our hearts rejoice in believing that we are not forsaken by our Holy Redeemer; but that he has during this Meeting made himself known from time to time by the breaking of bread.

We have at this time been brought affectionately to our remembrance by the readings of your acceptable Epistle of tenth month last. Aware that your number is small, we feel much for you in your stripped and tried situation; desiring that you may not be discouraged, but remember, beloved Friends, when our blessed Lord was on earth and working miracles, a large number followed him for a season, but how small was the number unto whom the consoling language was addressed: "Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations, and I appoint unto you a kingdom." How often he relieved with his little flock, and delivered unto them many holy precepts; and before that eventful day of offering up his precious life for the sins of the whole world, he warned them of trials that they would meet with for his name's sake, saying: "These things have I spoken unto you that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world." He prayed not that they might be taken out of the world, but that they might be kept from the evil. And now, dear Friends, let us remember that this is for us also; for he continued: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;" and it continues to be of vital importance that we believe on the only begotten Son, that we might have life, and have it more abundantly.

We have a large number of our young Friends with us at this time, whose orderly deportment and the interest they have manifested in the concerns of the Meeting, are increasingly encouraging to us, that many of them are under the Divine hand, preparing for usefulness in the Church.

The oppressed condition of the coloured people, and the Aborigines of our land, continues to claim our weighty and serious consideration, with desires that we may be favoured to see and improve every right opening for the amelioration of their suffering condition.

Finally, brethren, farewell. May we all grow in grace, and in the saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharpless, Jun.r Clerk.

1838.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends.

We esteem it among the blessings which the great Head ~~of the~~ of the Church deigns to grant to his dependent children, that under the influence of his cementing love, we are at times permitted to feel that we are brethren, bound together in Gospel fellowship, and with one accord, striving to promote the glorious cause of a crucified and risen Lord. This blessing, we humbly trust, has been at this time measurably vouchsafed to us, and in the feeling of this love we salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of the fifth month last.

We have on this occasion felt a deep and prevailing concern, that our views of the blessed and saving truths of our holy religion may be sound, and our convictions of their unspeakable importance, deep and abiding. That rooted and grounded in the ever blessed truth, we may be enabled in our lives and conversation, to exemplify the efficacy of that living faith, which works by love, and purifies the soul.

The unmerited mercy of our Heavenly Father, in sending his only begotten Son into the world, to live and die for us.— The great love of our blessed Saviour, in laying down his most precious life for our sakes, and suffering, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us unto God.— The unspeakable blessing of the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, and Sanctifier of his people; — Have appeared to us, to be among the fundamental and practical truths, in which our faith should be steadfast and unwavering.

Among the subjects of Christian concern which have deeply engaged our attention at our present Meeting, the wrongs of the coloured race, who are held in bondage, have deeply affected our feelings. We have sympathised with you on this subject; we have felt, we trust, the difficulties & perplexities of your situation, and the trials to which you are subjected, in maintaining our testimony to the unrighteousness of the slave-holding system. And we have earnestly desired, that He who is able to succour and sustain his dependent children, may be graciously pleased to favour you with holy help, and by his Grace to furnish you with ability to stand faithful to his cause, and in his own good time to open the way for farther exertions for the deliverance of this oppressed race.

As our minds are stayed on God, and our expectation is unto Him, may we not hope; nay, may we not rely, upon his promise, that our minds shall be kept free from all the excitements and intemperate zeal which exist in the world— according to Scripture testimony— "Thou shalt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee."

This state of quiet reliance upon the arm of a gracious and omnipotent Father has appeared to us as a necessary qualification successfully to labour in his service, and peculiarly favourable to a clear discernment of the path of religious duty. We have desired that we may be three

1838 weighty, prepared: and that whosoever in the openings of Divine light the path of duty shall become plain: ability may be witnessed to move forward, remembering, that the path of duty is the path of safety.

Our Meeting has been large, and the weighty concern which have come before us, have resulted in much harmony and brotherly love, and in an humbling sense of the mercy of our Holy Head, we salute you, and are

Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To North-Carolina.

Dear Friends,

In again assembling on this occasion for the purpose of holding a Yearly Meeting, and for the transaction of the affairs of truth, our minds have been turned as we trust in Gospel love, to our Brethren of other Yearly Meetings, and desires have been raised that we may become more and more knit together in the bonds of the Gospel, and built up together in the most holy faith. You, dear Friends, have been have been brought near to us, and your acceptable Epistle of the 11th month last has been read in our meeting.

It has been much the concern of our minds at this time, that sound views of Christian faith should prevail amongst us. That through the renewed and continued influence of the Holy Spirit, we may all be brought to the practical knowledge of the great truths essential to salvation, agreeably to apostolic testimony: For this is life eternal, to know thee the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. We are believed that as we are favoured thro' the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, to become rooted and grounded in this faith, its blessed fruits would more and more prevail and abound among us, and the fruits of the Spirit are declared to be, Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, meekness, temperance.

The great truth of the universality of the love of God in Christ Jesus, in that he gave his most precious life a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, that his mercies have extended to every human being of whatever class or condition, is calculated to impress upon us the duty, if we would follow Him, of extending our love, our charity, our brotherly regard, irrespective of conditions or circumstances, to the whole human family.

We have sympathised with you, and feel tenderly as we desire for you, in the consideration that you are surrounded with the evils of slavery, and that you have had much labour and many trials on this account. And we tenderly desire that you may be preserved in humble reliance upon Him, who is able to succour and to support his dependent children, under all the various trials which may come upon them.

Afflictions and trials have been the allotment of the pil-

1838

lowest of them of whom ancient prophecy spoke as a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. It is no new thing therefore in the Church. Let our dear friends lay hold of the comforts of the Gospel, thro' faith, remembering the blessed words of our Saviour, My grace is sufficient for thee.

We have cherished an encouraging belief, that there are indications of a more cheering nature in relation to the evils of slavery, than have heretofore appeared; particularly the success of the emancipation of so many Slaves in the British West Indies. That the shackles of the Slave are growing loose, and may one day, and oh that that day may be hastened, fall from his limbs, and that in our own land, thro' all its breadth, this crying oppression may cease. Then indeed instead of a land of thraldom, in which there is little security for the rights of the coloured race, this portion of our fellow men may alike with ourselves enjoy the rights and blessings with which our heavenly Father designs to bless the whole human family.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been favoured with the company of many of our younger brethren. We trust many of these are under the forming power of Divine grace for increased usefulness. May they abide steadfast, and grow and increase in the knowledge of God, and in that wisdom which is profitable to direct.

And may all of every class thank God and take courage, in the consideration that He who ruleth among the nations, is yet graciously disposed to preserve and bless us, and in his own good time, if we abide faithful, will give us the victory. To Him be the glory now and ever. Amen.

With the salutation of love, we are,

Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

We again address you, desiring that grace mercy and peace from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ, may abound amongst you. Our Meeting at this time has been large, and during its several sittings, we have been, marvellously favoured with an evidence that the great care taker of his people is yet watching over us for our good.

Whilst we have been brought deeply to humble the heart of many of our members from the simplicity and purity into which the religion of our Holy Redeemer is designed to lead us, we have been encouraged to look for aid from him alone from whom support can be derived.

Our Beloved Friends of your Yearly Meeting were brought afresh to our remembrance on the reading of your acceptable Epistle of Ninth month last, with earnest desires for your preservation and right advancement in the Truth as it is in Jesus. When we consider that in our militant state we wrestle, not with flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world. That we contend, not for an earthly

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not for an eternal kingdom, we have greatly desired that we may be favoured to put on strength in the name of the Lord; to put on the whole armour of faith, and to stand against the wiles of the enemy. The greatness of the work which, as Christians we are called upon to perform, should not prove a discouragement, when we reflect that our help is Omnipotent. Though we may feel ourselves deeply humbled under a sense of our weakness and unworthiness, yet as we are concerned to wait reverently, on Him who is Head over all things to his Church, he will mercifully extend to us ability for the performance of every service that he requires at our hands.

We would also most tenderly salute our young Friends, the position which they hold in this Society, is of great importance. In a little while the labour and care and travail of the Church must be theirs. On many of them, we trust, is already laid the preparing hand. Yield therefore, we entreat you, in all the tenderness of Christian feeling, to its forming operation. Learn early that subjection of mind and spirit to the discipline of the cross of Christ, which the Truth requires, and you will find in more mature years, that its blessed limitations are promotive of your greatest good. It is indeed a cheering prospect to the Church to behold her youth growing up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, evincing the fulfillment of ancient prophecy:— I will restore thy judges as at the first and thy Counsellors as at the beginning.

The concern manifested by your Meeting for the coloured population of our country, has been satisfactory to us. We feel a deep concern, in relation to the future prospects of this people; but we are encouraged to hope, that as we are careful to seek after the mind of Truth, in this important engagement, way will open for their relief, and the immutable principles of justice and humanity, in their behalf, will ultimately prevail.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk

P.S. The various Indian Tribes who are now located on the Western side of the Mississippi River, have appeared to us, in having them brought feelingly to our remembrance, to have strong claims upon the sympathy of Friends as Christians and Philanthropists. We are desirous that these claims may be kept in view, and as way may open for it, a united concern, to act in their behalf, may spread in the minds of Friends, every where. And we cherish the belief that so acting, our endeavours may be blessed to their good and our own satisfaction and peace.

Our Committee appointed last year to correspond with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings upon this subject, is continued.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being again met in our annual assembly, our distant Indian have been brought afresh to our remembrance, in the reviewings of that love which we believe continues to pervade the hearts of all who are seeking their own religious advancement, or the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth; and under a precious feeling, as we humbly trust, of a degree of this love, we are led to address you.

Your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last has been received at this time; the reading of which, together with those from the other Yearly Meetings, has renewed in our minds, feelings in accordance with our steady belief, that we are indeed one people, wherever situated, for one is our Lord even Christ. And as we abide under the direction of that Light which illuminated the hearts of our early predecessors, and by its teachings gathered them to be a people, we shall more and more see eye to eye, and become co-workers together for the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth.

We have been made renewedly sensible at this time, that of ourselves we can do nothing; and we have ~~earnestly~~ and fervently desired that Friends everywhere may put their trust in the Lord Jehovah in whom is everlasting strength; assuredly believing that he will not be found wanting to the humbly dedicated mind, but will graciously furnish ability for the performance of every good word and work.

We notice with particular satisfaction the lively interest manifested by you in the religious and literary instruction of the children of Indiana. We still continue to exercise a care towards a remnant of the much injured Indian natives, within our limits. We also notice with interest the information given in your Epistle of the continued exercise among you to promote the guarded education of our beloved youth. We have long felt the subject to be one of deep interest, not only to the individuals who are the special objects of this care, but to the Society at large. We would therefore encourage you in the faithful performance of this important duty, in humble reliance on Divine aid, and believe that your labours of love on account of this interesting race will be blessed.

The deeply interesting subject of slavery has at this time claimed the weighty deliberations of this Meeting, and Friends were encouraged to a careful attention to the teachings of that wisdom which is profitable to direct, that under the influence thereof, we may labour availingly in the Lord's work.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have had a renewed evidence that the great Head of the Church has condescended to comfort us by his presence, under a grateful sense of which much feeling counsel and encouragement have been imparted; and the beloved youth have been affectionately invited to a more unreserved dedication of heart in the morning of their days to the promotion of the cause of our Lord and Master.

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We have been favoured to transact the various concerns which have claimed the attention of this Meeting in harmony, and brotherly love.

We are, in the love of the Gospel, your friends, & brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

P.S. [Same as to the preceding Epistle to Ohio.]

Information respecting Correspondents, contained in Epistles received in 1838.

From Philad.a &c. — Richard M. Thomas has been appointed a Correspondent for Kingston Quarterly Meeting in place of Charles Shoemaker deceased.

From New York. — Thomas Carpenter, address Purchase East Chester County, N.Y. is appointed Correspondent of Purchase M.o Meeting in place of Henry Griffen, deceased.

Allen Mason, address Mellville, Orleans County, N.Y. is appointed Correspondent of Ellis M.o Meeting, in Farmington Quarterly Meeting, N.Y.

From Indiana. — See annexed printed List.

From Baltimore.

Correspondents appointed this year. (1838.)

William Procter, for Baltimore M.o Meeting.

Jonas Lamb, Loudon County, Virginia; Post office.

Hamilton's Store, Correspondent for Hopewell M.o Mg.

Information respecting Correspondents.

Baltimore, 10m.o 1839. Thomas F. Blackburn, Bindsfield P. Office, Bedford C.o Pennsylvania, is appointed Correspondent for Dunning's Creek M.o M.g. in place of Thomas Bowen, deceased.

Indiana. 10m.o 1839. Henry Henley, Carthage, Rush C.o Ind.a is appointed Correspondent for Walnut Ridge M.o M.g. in place of Henry B. Hill, released. Aaron Hill, Marion Grant C.o Ind.a for Back Creek M.o M.g. Aaron Street, jun.r Salem, Henry C.o Iowa Territory, for Salem M.o M.g. Samuel Beasley, Mount Gilead, Marion C.o Ohio, for Gilead M.o M.g. James Stanton, Springborough, Warren C.o Ohio, for Springborough M.o M.g. in place of John Garretson, released.

The Friends appointed at last Yearly meeting to attend to the printing and dividing of the Memorial of Narcissa Osborn and the Minutes of that meeting, report that the service has been performed.

The Friends appointed at a previous sitting to propose the names of Friends for members of the Meeting for Sufferings, proposed the names of Henry Harvey and Benjamin Stanton, with whom this meeting uniting, they are appointed accordingly.

The meeting then adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Seventh-day morning, Tenth month, 7th.

The meeting assembled according to adjournment.

This meeting unites in appointing the following named Friends to visit West Branch Quarterly meeting, and to render such assistance to said meeting as they, in the wisdom of truth, may be enabled to render, with privilege to visit the Monthly meetings; to report to next Yearly meeting, viz: Thomas Arnet, Jacob Elliott, Benajah Hiatt, John Kindley, Charles Osborn, David Bailey, Abraham Carpenter, Elias Fisher, George Carter, James White, Jesse Kenworthy, James Stanton, William Hobbs, John Bateman, Joel Gilbert, and James Hadley, of Fairfield. [The women Friends appointed on this committee, are: Ann Thomas, Anna Carpenter, Miriam Carter, Anna Unthank, Dinah Cook, Hannah Fisher, and Elizabeth Cox.]

The subject of an Asylum, as referred for consideration by last Yearly meeting, being again revived, and the meeting being brought into lively feeling thereon, appoints the following named Friends to receive contributions for this purpose, should any be made, and to report to next Yearly meeting, viz: William Crossman, Thomas Pearson, Barclay Johnson, Benjamin Fulghum, Enoch Thompson, Levi Coffin, Newton Stubbs, Henry Harvey, Joseph Allen, William H. Baldwin, Jacob Newlin.

The Friends appointed to revise the list of Correspondents, to countersign certificates, &c., have produced a Revised List, which is, with some corrections, approved and adopted—and is as follows:

LIST OF CORRESPONDENTS.

MIAMI QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Cæsars Creek.—Robert Furnas, Waynesville, Warren County, Ohio.

Miami.—James Smith, Waynesville, Warren County, Ohio.

Springborough.—John Garretson, Springborough, Warren County, Ohio.

Cincinnati.—Ephraim Morgan, Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio.

Green Plain.—John Wildman, South Charleston, Clark County, Ohio.

WEST BRANCH QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Union.—Samuel Teague, West Milton, Miami County, Ohio.

Mill Creek.—Samuel Jay, West Milton, Miami County, Ohio.

West Branch.—David Mote, West Milton, Miami County, Ohio.

FAIRFIELD QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Fall Creek.—John Vanpelt, New Petersburgh, Highland County, Ohio.

Fairfield.—Gershom Perdue, East Monroe, Highland County, Ohio.

Clear Creek.—Jonathan Sanders, East Monroe, Highland County, Ohio.

Newberry.—James Hadley, Martinsville, Clinton County, Ohio.

WHITE WATER QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

White Water.—David S. Horney, Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana.

WHITE WATER QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Milford.—Aaron White, Milton, Wayne County, Indiana.

Springfield.—John Marshall, Economy, Wayne County, Indiana.

West Grove.—John Maxwell, Centreville, Wayne County, Indiana.

Chester.—Daniel Vatau, Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana.

Walnut Ridge.—Henry B. Hill, Carthage, Rush County, Indiana.

Spiceland.—George Evans, Greensborough, Henry County, Indiana.

BLUE RIVER QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Blue River.—Henry Wilson, Canton, Washington County, Indiana.

Lick Creek.—Silas Dixon, Paoli, Orange County, Indiana.

Driftwood.—Isaac Cox, Azalia, Bartholomew County, Indiana.

NEW GARDEN QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

New Garden.—Francis Thomas, New Garden, Wayne County, Indiana.

Cherry Grove.—Jonathan Johnson, New Garden, Wayne County, Indiana.

Dover.—Ezekiel Hazley, New Garden, Wayne County, Indiana.

White River.—Benjamin Cox, Winchester, Randolph County, Indiana.

Mississinewa.—Eli Overman, Marion, Grant County, Indiana.

WEST FIELD QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Salem.—William Talbert, Liberty, Union County, Indiana.

Elk.—Thomas Talbert, Jacksonburgh, Butler County, Ohio.

(over.)

CENTER QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Center.—Joseph Doan, Jr., Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio.

Dover.—David Bailey, Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio.

Springfield.—Nathaniel Carter, Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio.

WHITE LICK QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Fairfield.—David Whitson, Bridgeport, Marion County, Indiana.

Westfield.—Zimri Cook, Westfield, Hamilton County, Indiana.

Mill Creek.—Robert W. Hodson, Belleville, Hendricks County, Indiana.

White Lick.—Joel Dixon, Mooresville, Morgan County, Indiana.

ALUM CREEK QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Alum Creek.—William Benedict, Bennington, Delaware County, Ohio.

Goshen.—Henry Pickerell, Zanesfield, Logan County, Ohio.

WESTERN QUARTER.

Monthly Meetings.

Bloomfield.—Nathaniel Newland, Annapolis, Park County, Indiana.

Vermillion.—Richard Haworth, Newport, Vermillion County, Indiana.

Sugar River.—Jehu Ellis, Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, Indiana.

On behalf and by direction of the Committee.

EZRA BAILY.

The epistle from the Yearly meeting in New York, informs us of the following changes in the Correspondents of the Monthly meetings in that Yearly meeting, which our subordinate meetings are directed to enter on their minutes.

1839. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-Day, 16th, and at Newport for Discipline, on

Second-day morning, the 17th of 6th mo. 1839.

Epistles being received from our several Quarterly Meetings, the Friends thereon named as Representatives to this Meeting, are.

For Rhode-Island, John Wilbur, Rowland Greene, Theophilus Shove, Thomas Anthony, John Meader, David Buffum, William Jenkins, Jr., T. Mitchell, Arnold Congdon.

For Salem, Caleb Newhall, Ichabod Nichols, John Page, Samuel Cadway, Enoch Read, Abijah Johnson, William B. Thompson, Samuel Boyce.

Dunkwich, Abraham Russell, Samuel Brown, Jesse Kelley, Isaac R. Tifford, Barnabas Tabor, Silas Gardner, George Howland, John Howland, Samuel Slade, Newell Hoxie.

Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Nathan Douglas, Caleb Jones, Elisha Jones, Mark Knight.

Smithfield, Josiah Shove, Daniel Aldrich, 2d, James N. Fry, John Milton Earle.

Wakefield, Charles F. Coffin, Joseph Tabor, Samuel Taylor, jun., Stephen Nichols, Isaac Jones, Isaac Hawkes

Dover, Ezra Meader, John D. Lang, John Brown, and Olney Thompson. Whose names being called, they were all present.

Having at this time the company of our beloved friend Daniel Wheeler, of Great-Britain; Joseph Edgerton, of Somerset Monthly Meeting, Ohio; John Wood, of New York City Monthly Meeting, and Henry Knowles, of the M°. Meeting of Smyrna, State of New-York, satisfactory certificates of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry, and present religious engagements, were presented and read. Those of our friend Daniel Wheeler are from the Monthly Meeting of Ballitore, held at Doncaster and the Quarterly Meeting of York, both held in the Tenth month; and the Morning Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, in the Seventh Month, 1838.

We have also the company of our friend William Dewsnap, companion to our friend Joseph Edgerton, with a certificate of the concurrence of Chesterfield Monthly Meeting, Ohio, in his [illegible] and ~~religious~~ engagements, and stating that he is an Elder in unity with them.

The General Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, last year, and an Epistle from the same Meeting, addressed to this, were received and read to our satisfaction; together with acceptable Epistles from our Friends of the other Yearly Meetings with which we have usually correspondence: except those of Ireland and Virginia.

Thomas Rowland, John Meader, Daniel Sabin, Wm. Jenkins, Rowland Greene, Moses H. Beede, John Milton Earle, Jesse D. Lang, Samuel Gould, Tobey, Arnold Congdon, Charles F. Coffin, T. Mitchell, George H. Read, Samuel Boyce, Abijah Johnson.

1839.

Prince Gardner, Thomas Harkness, Effingham L. Capron, Samuel Taylor, jun., Newell Howie, John Warren, John Wilbur, Thos. B. Gould, Samuel Austin and Isaac R. Tifford, were requested to prepare, as way may open for it, essays of communications to our Friends of other Yearly Meetings, and present them at a future sitting or sittings.

It appears that our several Quarterly Meetings have either paid or given direction for the payment to our Treasurer, of their respective proportions of Stock. Joseph Metcalf, Micajah C. Pratt, George W. Taber, Caleb Jones, Arnold Aldrich, 2d, Caleb Nichols and John Brown, were appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and report the state thereof; also to consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year, and to propose a Treasurer.

By the accounts now received from the Quarterly Meetings we are informed, That Salem has united with Scalbrook Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Newell Ordway; and with Warren Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Alice Paige. That Sandwich has united with Sandwich Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Thomas Aken to the station of an Elder. That Smithfield has united with Bolton Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Ruth Metcalf to the same station. That Uxbridge has united with Unity Monthly Mg. in the appointment of Asa Jones and Lydia R. Winslow; and with Uxbridge Mo. Mg. in the appointment of Jacob Partridge and Moses Hawkes to the station of Elders; with China Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of C. C. Jones and with Uxbridge in approving the public ministry of David Dudley. and that Dover has united with Dover Mo. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Abigail M. Jones.

We are informed by the accounts from Dover and Falmouth Quarterly Meetings, that our Beloved Friend Joseph John Gurney acceptably attended those Meetings — the former in the 8th, and the latter in the 9th month last.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met, pursuant to adjournm.

Rowland Greene, on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting, that they had conferred together, and were united in recommending Abraham Shearman, jun. for Clerk, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, which being considered, was approved and they were appointed to those services for the year ensuing.

Having at this Meeting the company of our Beloved Friend Elizabeth Robson, of Liverpool, in Great-Britain, — satisfactory certificates of the unity of her Friends with her ministry, and present religious engagements in this country, from the Monthly Meeting of Lancashire West, and the Quarterly Meeting of Lancashire, held in the 9th month; and the Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, in the 10th month, 1838, were read at this sitting. — as

1839. was also a minute of Northshaw Mist. Monthly Meeting dated on the 12th month last, on behalf of our friend Thomas Robson of Liverpool, who accompanies his wife, our upwards dear friend E.R. in her visit to this country, certifying that he is a member of that Meeting, and in unity and good esteem as an Elder.

We are also favoured at this time with the company of our beloved friends Elizabeth Waggett Hall and Rachel Thomson, of New York. Satisfactory certificates of the unity of their friends with their present religious concerns were read at this sitting.

The Clerk informed, that he had, as directed, placed in the hands of David Buffum, Treasurer of this Meeting, the receipt of William Jenkins, Treasurer of the School Fund, for a certain Note of hand and Mortgage, referred to in a minute of last year.

see pages 65, 66.

The annual report of the Boarding School Committee was received and read; and being satisfactory to the Meeting, the Clerk was directed to transmit copies thereof, to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings; with the Circular of the Committee, issued in 1835, thereto appended.

The account of the Superintendent accompanying the Report, was also received and read.

"In again presenting this Annual Report to the Yearly Meeting, the School Committee feel it right, notwithstanding some discouragements, gratefully to commemorate the mercy that has been extended to us, through which the various inmates of the Institution have been preserved in good health, and the School, we have cause to believe, has continued to be useful to those who have been placed in it.

"Meetings for Divine worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the time of the vacations, & harmony & holiness prevails. The average number of Scholars during the past year has been seventy-seven.

"The late Superintendents of the School having resigned their trust, we have engaged our friends Silas and Clara Wing to act in that capacity, who have entered upon the discharge of their duties, and Jonathan L. Plum, Samuel Austin & George F. Read, are employed as Teachers in the Boys School, & Emmeline Aldrich and Elizabeth H. Osborne in the Girls.

"The Treasurer's and Superintendent's accounts have been settled, by which it appears that the debts of the Institution have been reduced during the past year, and that its present indebtedness is about two thousand dollars. For more particular information of the receipts and expenditures we refer to a copy of the Superintendent's account, herewith presented. In the present condition of the finances of the School, we have not thought it proper to propose any change in the terms from the prices of last year — which are $33 per term, for members of this Yearly Meeting; $45 for those scholars who are not members, where one or both parents are members; and $50 for the members of other Yearly Meetings. — Payable in advance. Ten dollars per term, additional charge, is made for instruction in the Languages. We have concluded to propose that Stationary and Books be furnished

children for their use in the School, [illegible] apparatus are necessary in the study of the higher branches, including the Mathematics and the Languages, and that these be supplied at their actual original cost.

"The income of the charitable fund will admit, as heretofore, ten scholars, one term each, and a few Monthly Meetings that may desire to occupy the privilege are requested to make application to the Acting School Committee in season for their admission at the commencement of the winter term, which this year will be on the fourth day of the eleventh month.

"The division of the year into two terms with vacations has, we think, proved salutary in practice, and the examination at the close of each term has been interesting and useful; but in order that it may not be interrupted during its progress, we desire that no child may be withdrawn from the School until it is completed, which it is intended shall take place on the 5th day of the last week of the term; so that children will be ready to leave on the 6th day morning of that week.

"The observance of plainness of speech, behaviour & apparel among the inmates of the Institution, has continued to claim our very serious attention, and we have laboured for the maintenance of the ancient testimonies of our Society in these respects. We have believed that usefulness might result from again forwarding the accompanying Circular, issued in 1835, to the several Monthly Meetings of Friends; and the various Committees of the Monthly Meetings in recommending scholars to the School, as well as parents and guardians, are earnestly requested to exercise a care that the provisions therein contained are faithfully observed.

"We also think it right to remind Friends of the established regulation of the School, that none are admitted into the male department, over fourteen years of age, who have not previously received permission from the Sub-Committee, which meets at the School House in Providence on third-day preceding the first fifth day in every month.

"On behalf and by direction of the School Committee,

"Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk."

Boarding School, 3d. of 5th month, 1839.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 18th.

Again met according to adjournment.

The Representatives were all present.

The consideration of the state of Society was introduced by the reading of the Queries, and the answers received to them from the several Quarterly Meetings. During which a solemnity was thought over the minds of many present, and pertinent remarks were offered by concerned Friends, on deficiences in the maintenance of our Christian testimonies thereby brought into view; and the language of encouragement

(Copy)

Dr. Yearly Meeting Boarding School in acc.t with

1839 4mo: 6th	To payment of outstanding debts of last year		$1238.03
	To Amount of expenditures since 4mo: 27th 1838 viz		
	" Salaries	$249.45	
	" Books and Stationary	513.96	
	" Labor	1140.09	
	" Repairs and Furniture	461.21½	
	" Fuel viz Wood $438.26½		
	Anthracite Coal 287.—		
	Charcoal 56.37	781.63½	
	" Stone	848.85½	
	" Butter	593.69	
	" Cheese	10.53	
	" Lard	5.46	
	" Meat	539.61	
	" Fish	37.99½	
	" Hay, Grain &c	540.45½	
	" Bread	173.74	
	" Sugar	197.04	
	" Molasses	179.47	
	" Tea	19.91	
	" Coffee	56.03½	
	" Lamp Oil	149.99	
	" Vegetables	183.95½	
	" Medicines	22.16½	
	" Soap and Soda	64.17	
	" Post Office	55.71	
	" Articles for Scholars	241.75	
	" Money refunded and due Scholars	123.59½	
	" Incidentals	76.31½	9486.79
	To Balance to new account		92.38
			$10,817.20

Rowland Rathbun Superintendent Cr.

1838		
4 mo. 27th	By Balance on settlement - - -	$ 43.08
1839 4 mo. 6th	" Amount received from the Treasurer	4800. —
	" " receive for board and	
	tuition of scholars and advance to them	5590.54
	" " from visitors - - -	57.29
	" " Article sold - - - - -	126.08
	Amount due for labor $ 8.20	
	" due Sundry persons 192.01 -	200.21
		$ 10.817.20
1839 4 mo. 6 - -	By balance brot down - - -	$ 92.38

Providence 4 mo. 6th 1839 Errors Excepted (Signed) Rowland Rathbun, Superint.

Account

1839. extended to those who were endeavouring, in the ability received, rightly to labour for the preservation of these precious testimonies; and all were feelingly recommended to that grace of God, which hath appeared to all men, and which as attended to, will lead out of every hurtful thing, and safely guide us in the path to peace.

The following summary embraces the substance of the Answers.

1. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended, and with the exception of two mid week meetings noticed in one of the accounts, and one small meeting referred to in another, which has not been kept up in the middle of the week. They have generally been attended by most Friends; yet there is a deficiency with some in this important duty, more particularly as it respects mid week meetings; and one account states that they are still much neglected by many. Mostly preserved from unbecoming behaviour, a few instance of sleeping excepted. The hour is nearly observed. Some care has been extended. 2. Love and unity are in good measure maintained by most of our members; but a deficiency herein is apparent with a few, and one account states that in some instances they are much wanting. — Detraction is mostly guarded against, but not sufficiently so, by all. Care is generally taken to end differences; yet they are heir into — — vive as existing in one Meeting, in a way that leads us to apprehend that Friends of that Meeting have not fully succeeded in doing them away. — 3. Care appears to rest on the minds of most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation; and to endeavour to be good examples herein themselves; yet it is manifest that there is much departure from the simplicity of our profession in these respects. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most of our families. — 4. Friends are generally careful to avoid the use of distilled liquors except for medicine, and the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, yet we have notice a few exceptions in these particulars, mostly under care. Moderation and temperance appear to be generally observed on the occasions referred to. — 5. The circumstances of the poor appear to be attended to. Two instances of disowning out from among Friends are noticed in one account; and a few instances in another, which are stated not to be under the control of Friends. — 6. Care appears to be prevalent with most Friends that proceedings with respect to marriage may be conformable to Discipline. Yet some deviations have occurred, and are under notice. In the account from Wassalboro Quarterly Meeting we are informed that a marriage has been conducted at Pictou, in the Province of Nova Scotia, not fully in accordance with our Discipline, and that some care has been taken. 7. Our testimonies in these respects are generally maintained. Yet it is with sorrow that we have noticed in several of the accounts, a few exceptions of a military nature; and that in a few instances our testimony to a free Gospel ministry has not been fully supported. These cases of violation of very important testimonies appear to be under the care of Friends where they have occurred. 8. Friends are mostly careful as it respects the several parts of this Query, except a few instances of failure in the performance of promises and payment of just debts, under notice. — — —

— 9. —

1839. 9. — Generally careful as to Records; yet there appears to be some deficiency as to births and deaths. Some removals have occurred without certificates, mostly under notice. — 10. Endeavours are used to deal with offenders in a good degree as queried after; yet there is an acknowledgment of failing, that in the full discharge of this important duty, and particularly as to timely dealing. Judgment has been placed, we trust, according to Discipline.

Being informed that the answers to the Queries from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, that a marriage had been conducted at Pictou, in the Province of Nova Scotia, in a manner not fully in accordance with our Discipline, and it being apprehended that Friends of that Meeting may be brought under further embarrassments, unless relieved in some way by this Meeting, we appoint Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene, John Meader, Tho.s Anthony, John D. Lang, James Bucke, Francis Tabor, Thomas Jones, Esbon Newhall, Moses Farnum, David Buffum, William Jenkins and John Page, to take the subject into consideration, and after conferring with the Representatives and other concerned Friends of that Meeting, in order to obtain a full knowledge of attendant circumstances, to report their judgment to this Meeting at a future sitting.

An inquiry having been suggested, whether a more suitable time and place might not be fixed upon for the holding of our Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders. Tho.s Rowland, Thomas Anthony, Daniel Hoxie, John Page, Ephraim Jones, John Merrow, John Brown, James Bucke, Seth Davis, Samuel Jones, Seth Riley, Silas Earle, Francis Tabor, Ezra Meader, Thomas Jones, Abijah Peterson, Clement Ratcliff, Sam.l Taylor, Jr. William Hall, Esbon Newhall, Rowland Greene, Nathan Breed, John D. Lang, Prince Gardner, Edmund Chase, John Meader, Charles F. Coffin and David Buffum, were appointed to take the subject under consideration, in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting, should they appoint one, and report at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

A Testimony of Swanzey Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Daniel Brayton, deceased, was read, and being approved, was directed to be recorded.

A Testimony of Vassalboro' Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Valentine Meader, deceased, was also received and read, and being satisfactory to the Meeting, was directed to be recorded.

Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting having informed us that they have united with a proposition of this Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders for changing the time of holding that Meeting to the 2d hour in the afternoon of the days on which it is now held — it has the concurrence of this Meeting; the alteration to take place in the 11th mo.th next; and the Clerk was directed to forward a copy of this Minute to said Quarterly Meeting.

1837. John Warren, John Wilbur, Thomas Rowland, Thomas Anthony, Isaac Mitchell, Francis Nicholson, Enoch Reed, Moses Farnum, John Brown, Olney Thomson, Samuel Taylor, Jr. William Jenkins, Seth Davis, David Bullock, Palmer Chase, Isaac R. Gifford, Andrew Nichols, Ebenezer Wing, Peter Paddock, Jesse Gardner, Jonathan Beede, Thomas Jones, Ephraim Jones, Sam'l Boyd Tobey, Samuel Boyce, John D. Lang, John Meader, Edward Chase, George Rowland, Esther Newhall, James Comstock, Elisha Jones and William Hill were appointed a Committee to introduce at a future sitting the names of suitable Friends to constitute a School Committee, on the part of this Meeting, for the year ensuing. And they were desired to consider the expediency of naming a less number of Friends, than have been before, been appointed to this service.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read; and the attention thereto manifested to the various concerns that have been brought before them, during the past year, was satisfactory to this Meeting. It was referred to the Committee appointed this afternoon, as in a previous minute, to introduce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to the 11th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth day morning, the 19th. Friends assembled pursuant to adjournment. And the Representatives were again all present.

The Committee appointed 1837, and continued last year, to correspond, as way might open, with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, on the condition of the Indians residing beyond the Mississippi, produced the following report.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee appointed by this Meeting, in 1837, to correspond, as way might open, with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, on the condition of the Indians residing beyond the Mississippi, report, That they have received communications dated on the 3d Month last, from the Committees on Indian concerns of the Yearly Meetings of Baltimore and Indiana, with some accompanying documents, from which they learn, that the three Yearly Meetings of Baltimore, Ohio, and Indiana, are by their several Committees, acting in concert, in endeavouring to promote the civilization of a remnant of the Shawanese tribe of Indians, now residing beyond the Mississippi; and that the active direction of the concern devolves principally on the Committee of Indiana Yearly Meeting, with such assistance from the Committee of Ohio, as they may be enabled to afford.

"For the better understanding of the present situation of the concern, it may be proper for us briefly to state, that we learn from the documents received, that when the care of Friends was first extended to this Tribe, they were settled upon the Wapaghkonetta reservation of land, in the western part of the State of Ohio, which in the year 1819, an establishment was formed amongst them by Friends, for the purpose

1839

of instructing them in the arts of civilized life, and for the education of their children in useful learning: and that satisfactory improvement continued to be made up to the year 1832. About which time the Shawanoes sold their lands to the Government, and removing beyond the Mississippi, settled upon a tract of land, said to be of excellent quality, on the Kansas river near the western boundary of the State of Missouri, in latitude of about 39°. N.) and distant about seven hundred miles from Cincinnati. - Here, Friends have erected the necessary buildings for the accommodation of a Family and School, and have again opened an establishment among them. A school is now in operation, and meetings for worship are regularly held in the establishment. It appears that the Indians raised, during the past year, a sufficiency of corn for their own consumption; that they are much improved in their moral habits; and it is stated in general terms, by the Committee of Indiana Yearly Meeting, that they are "doing well."

The Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting say:—

"Although in the prosecution of this very interesting concern, difficulties have frequently occurred to mar the work, from the disturbed state of the Indian tribes among themselves, and from the unsettled condition of the Indians consequent upon the policy of our Government for their removal West of the Mississippi, yet we have the satisfaction to believe, that important benefits have resulted to them from our benevolent & disinterested labours on their account, which, with the entire confidence that they continue to repose in Friends, furnishes us with sufficient ground for active perseverance therein.

"In the communication from the Committee of Correspondence of the Yearly Meeting of Indiana, we are referred for evidence of the deep interest which is felt by Friends of that Yearly Meeting, for the welfare of the various Indian tribes within the limits of the United States. To a report made to that last Yearly Meeting, to a Memorial of that Meeting to Congress, and to an Address to the People of the United States, "On the civilization and Christian instruction of the Aborigines of our country." They urge upon Congress, with much earnestness, that the Indians who have already been removed beyond the Mississippi, and those who may may voluntarily choose to follow them, may have a territory sufficiently ample for their accommodation, set apart for a possession, beyond the power of alienation, and secured to them and their posterity forever, by a solemn act of the National Legislature. They add:—

"We feel constrained by a sense of duty further to plead with you on behalf of the remaining Tribes, who are still on the lands of their fathers, and who are not willing to leave them. We beseech you to remember the universal obligation of the rule laid down by our blessed Lord, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Their extensive domain is reduced to the small limits

1839. which they now claim; and shall a great and powerful nation, rich in the very soil which was once theirs, and rich in its productions, drive from that scanty pittance this helpless people, against their will? — We dread not; we hope for the honour of our government, and for the sake of justice & humanity, that this will never be the case."

The only information possessed by this Committee of the number of individuals constituting the Shawnese Tribe is derived from a statistical table published a few years past, in which they were estimated, previous to their removal from Ohio, at 800. — Perhaps this estimate cannot be relied upon as very accurate; but it is sufficient to shew, that they constitute but a very small proportion of the whole number of those who have been removed, or are now in progress of being removed, to the remote regions of the West. Driven as many of them have been by the strong arm of power, from the homes of their fathers; from the soil of which they were the undisputed proprietors; from the cherished scenes of their earliest childhood, and the comforts that had been gathered around them by their own hands; and forced to seek new homes in a remote wilderness country, beyond the bounds of civilization; — they certainly have strong claims upon the benevolence, or rather the justice of the whole community.

With feelings of commiseration like these, we were about drawing our Report to a close, when we received the following communication from New-York Yearly Meeting, which we think proper to lay before Friends. — See following page. —

And we would propose, that our Yearly Meeting, at this time, should so far unite with New-York Yearly Meeting, as to recommend to Friends to enter into a voluntary subscription to the amount of five hundred Dollars, to be appropriated to the object specified in the communication from the Committee on the Indian concern of New-York Yearly Meeting, under the care of such Committee as may be appointed by this Meeting to have charge of this subject.

On behalf of the Committee,

Abm Shearman, Jun.

Newport, 6m° 19, 1839.

Which being considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and with renewed feelings of sympathy for this much injured People, the surviving members of the Committee now under appointment, were continued for another year, to correspond, as way may open for it, with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, on this interesting concern. And it was concluded, as proposed by the Committee, so far to unite with New-York Y^r^ Meeting, as to recommend to Friends to enter into a voluntary subscription at this time, for the purpose of raising an amount of not less than $500. to be placed in the hands of the Committee of this Meeting; and to be appropriated under their care for the objects specified in the Report.

Daniel Gould,
Gideon D. Smith, George F. Read, Tho^s^ J. Gifford, John Clark,
Moses P. Lockwood, Nathan Breed, Jon^a^ Beede, Ichabod Nichols,
Josiah Chellis, Moses A. Cartland, Matthew Howland, Wm^m^ C.
Taber, Charles R. Tucker, Geo. W. Baker, Isaac R. Gifford, Peleg Mitchell,

1839. Elisha Jones, Samuel Jones, Mark Knight, Isaac Hawkins, Edw.d Parker, Edw.d C. Cranston, Arnold Aldrich, 2d, Thomas Grover, Alden Fitch, Daniel Tabor, Alden Sampson, William Hill, Olney Thompson, Jacob R. Purinton, and Joseph Aldrich were requested to call on Friends, to contribute liberally in this freedom, and report at a future sitting.

Minute of New-York Yearly Meeting.

(referred to on the preceding page.)

"At New York Yearly Meeting of Friends, 1839. The following Report from the Committee on the Indian Concern, was received and read in this Meeting.

The Committee on the concern of the Society for the improvement and instruction of the Indian natives in their new locations west of the Mississippi, in order to carry into effect the views of the Yearly Meeting, has corresponded with Committees of the Yearly Meetings of New England, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, on this important & interesting subject, by which and by the Epistles from those Yearly Meetings, there appears to be a disposition on their part to act in concert with the several Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, in forming some plan for the benefit of the Indians, comprising a population of about 200,000 of those originally residents there, and of 88,000 removed; and about being removed West of the Mississippi.

"When it is considered how great a body of Indians is collected on the frontier of the United States, suffering under long continued and recent injury, and the keen sense of compulsory expatriation; and how these feelings are likely to be increased by the artifices of designing men around them to stimulate them to violence, a danger which is much heightened by their love of intoxicating liquors; and how by these means they are liable to be drawn into sudden acts of hostility, which may involve the whole of tribes of the frontier country, produce the massacre of a great number of whites, and lead to the extermination of the Indian population, and that the Society of Friends possesses the confidence of the Indians, and the favourable opinion of the President of the United States and the department of War, as was evinced during the late benevolent exertions of Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on behalf of the Seneca and other Indians in this State, the Committee considers it to be incumbent on the Society at large to exert that influence in a general and united action in advice and assistance to the Indian tribes. It is proposed that the Committees of the several Yearly Meetings adopting the measure shall have an agent or agents, as their pecuniary means may admit, residing at the central seat of Indian Government, who shall acquire their confidence, so as to become advised of all their designs and movements, and use their exertions to prevent their assuming a hostile attitude so much to be dreaded; to be present at the Councils of the individual tribes, and at the meeting of their Federal Government, and to endeavor to infuse a mild and gentle spirit into all their movements, by inculcating the peaceable doctrines of the Gospel, and to aid in promoting their literary instruction, agricultural improvement and civilization; to endeavour to eradicate their desire for intoxicating liquors, and prevent their being furnished with them by the whites, contrary to the wishes of the Government."

1839. "The design is of a general character, to take, as far as may be expedient, the supervision of the tribes within the limits of the United States west of the Mississippi, but not to interfere with the movements of individual Yearly Meetings any further than they may request a co-operation.

We are of the opinion that great and durable good may be effected without a heavy expenditure or great labour to Friends, and that it has become the solemn and responsible duty of the Society, to take upon itself this charge."

The Committee propose to the Yearly Meeting, to direct One Thousand Dollars to be raised for this object, to increase the number of the Committee, and to give it authority to act in concert with the other Yearly Meetings on this general plan.

Signed on behalf of the Committee, &c.

On carefully attending to the subject, the Report of the Committee was approved, and it was authorised to act in concert with the Committees of the several Yearly Meetings, as therein proposed, and our Quarterly Meetings are requested to direct the opening of subscriptions to raise the sum of One Thousand Dollars for this benevolent object, and pay to Mahlon Day, Clerk of the Committee, New-York.

Extracted from the Minutes of said Meeting,

Samuel Parsons, Clerk.

3

[After this subject had been disposed of,]

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year, on the request from Caldwallborough, relative to a division of that Quarterly Meeting, reported, "That they had attended to the subject, and that several of them had visited the Quarterly Meeting, and most of the Monthly Meetings constituting it, and after conferring together, were united in judgment that it might be best to continue the subject, another year, under the care of a Committee."

Signed on behalf of the Committee by John Moulton & Elizabeth Wing.

Which being considered, was united with;

and the subject was continued under the care of the Friends now under appointment, with the exception of our late friend Stephen Gould, deceased, Edward Wing being added to the Committee, and they were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Accounts of the Treasurer, and for other purposes, produced the following report.

To the Yearly Meeting.

"We have this day settled with the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, and find a balance in his hands of $1016 46/100

The Committee recommend that $1300.— be raised for the service of the Meeting the ensuing year, & they propose David Buffum for Treasurer. Upon taking a view of the present state of the Treasury, it may be thought that a smaller sum than is recommended to be raised at the present time, would be sufficient, but it was estimated that it would require the whole of the present balance to discharge a Note given for $150, borrowed during the past year, & defray the expenses accruing upon holding the present Yearly Meeting.

Newport, 6mo 19. 1839. On behalf of the Committee, Geo. W. Baker.

1839. which being considered was satisfactory to the Meeting: and in conformity therewith, David Buffum was appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year, and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of $1300. the sum proposed to be raised, viz.
Providence $390 Salem 125 Sandwich 30 Falmouth 45 —
Smithfield 125 Nantucket 4 Dover 65 —

The following minute of the Meeting for Sufferings held in the 3d month last, was laid before this Meeting, viz.

"The subject of furnishing a further supply of copies of our Book of Discipline for the use of our Meetings and Members, having claimed our deliberate attention at this time, as well as at our last Meeting, we have believed it right for us to propose to the consideration of our next Yearly Meeting, the expediency of causing a new edition of the Book to be printed, either in its present form, or with such revision, if any, as the Yearly Meeting may deem proper"

And after a free discussion of the subject, it was referred for further consideration to our next Yearly Meeting.

David Buffum, Newport,
William Jenkins, Providence,
Thomas Howland, East-Greenwich, } R. Island.
John Wilbur, Hopkinton,
Abraham Shearman, jun. New-Bedford, Massachusetts,

were appointed Correspondents of this Meeting with the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland.

The Committee on the Epistolary Correspondence was requested to prepare Minutes or Endorsements for our Friends now with us, from abroad, and present them at a future sitting.

And the Meeting then
Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 20th. Friends again met pursuant to adjournment. The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present.

The Committee appointed to propose the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Boarding School, produced the following, viz.

1 Rowland Greene, Thomas Jones, Samuel Boyce, Enoch Reed.
2 Nicholas Congdon, Caleb Howe, John Headley, John L. Lang,
3 Wm. Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, David Howe, Joshua H. Mitchell,
4 Walter Allen, Wm. Reynolds, Wm. A. Robinson, Abraham Barker, of Newton.
Joseph Metcalf, Sam.l Boyd Tobey, Spencer Wing, Abel Harkness,
James Tucker, Geo. Howland, John Macomber, Samuel Jones,
David Buffum, Jon.a Nichols, Nathan Reed, of Lynn, Prince Lawton,
Francis Tabor, Stephen Jones, jun. Benj.a Fry, Sam.l Taylor, jun.
Jonathan Penny, Isaac R. Gifford, Seth Kelley, Nant. Joseph Tabor, 2d.
John Brown, Edward Wing, Mosey H. Beede, William Mill,
Abel Howland, Jon.a Congdon, John Howland, Carol Nichols,
John Osborne, Arnold Congdon, Peter Peck, & Edward Earle,
Abel Shearman, Jr. James N. Fry,

Which being acceptable to the Meeting, they were appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment; to unite therein with a Committee of the Women's Meeting, and were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

1839. The Committee appointed at a previous sitting on the inquiry then suggested, relative to the holding of our Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, produced the following report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee on the proposition to remove the Select Yearly from Portsmouth to this place, report that they have had a conference on the subject and are united in judgment that such a removal is advisable: and that no change in the time of holding said Meeting be proposed, except to hold an adjourned meeting in the afternoon of the day on which the meeting is now held.

On behalf of the Committee

Liverpool, 19th of 8th mo. 1839. Newton D. Greene,
Hannah Dennis.

which was very fully united with, and it was concluded, that our Select Yearly Meeting should in future, commence at Liverpool at the same time that it has usually been held at Portsmouth, viz: at the 9th hour in the morning of the seventh day of the week immediately preceding the commencement of the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subjects suggested by the Answer to the Sixth Query, from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, introduced the following essay of a Minute, as the result of their investigation; viz:

"This Meeting being informed, that a Preparative Meeting has been established at Victoria in the Province of Nova Scotia, by China Monthly Meeting; where there are now a considerable number of Friends, who from their remote situation, being about five hundred miles from where the Monthly Meeting is held, have been and are likely to be subjected to great inconvenience to accomplish marriages among their members, in conformity to the order of our Society, as now prescribed in our Discipline, which circumstance has claimed the consideration of the Meeting, and after deliberately weighing the subject, we have thought it well to make the following provision for the accommodation of those Members who may reside in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, who may wish to join in marriage. Viz. — "That the parties thus intending to join in marriage, shall appear before the Preparative Meeting at Victoria, and declare their intentions of taking each other in marriage: whereupon the Preparative Meeting shall make record of the proposition: and forward a copy of that record to China Mo. Meeting; upon receiving of which, the Monthly Meeting shall proceed to appoint suitable Friends, to make inquiry into the clearness of the parties to proceed in their intended marriage; and the Committee may be composed of Friends of Victoria Preparative Meeting (if there not present,) or otherwise of such as are present. Said Committee, after due inquiry, are to report to China Mo. Meeting, and if there does not appear any objection to their proceeding, the Monthly Meeting shall appoint suitable Friends, (either present or not,) to superintend the marriage to be accomplished in a public Meeting, according to the good order of the Society, and make report to the Monthly Meeting, accompanied with the Marriage Certificate, to be placed on the records of China Monthly Meeting. And said Monthly

1839 Meeting is authorized to make such alterations in the form of the mar-
riage Certificate, as are reasonably necessary, to render it applicable to
the circumstances under which the Marriage has been conducted.—

"This arrangement is not intended to be continued any longer
than the circumstances which have given rise to this provision shall
remain."

Which after attentive consideration, was united with, and the
Women's Meeting concurring therein, the Clerk was directed to furnish
copies of this Minute to Cumberland Quarterly & China Mo. Meeting.

"The Committee on the concern of the Penobscot Tribe of
Indians, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee having some care in the concerns of the Penobscot
tribe of Indians, report, That two of the Committee made a visit
to them the last autumn, and found there was a gradual improve-
ment in their condition. There has been a School during some part
of the last year under the care of the Catholic Priest, and about twenty-
five Scholars have attended it. Their crop of corn last year was
larger than usual; other agricultural products about the same.—
Two frame houses have been built since our last report, towards
which the usual contribution was made by the Committee;
it is expected others will be erected the present year. Should
the Yearly Meeting continue their care of this people, an ap-
propriation will be necessary.

Agreeably to the wish expressed in our last Yearly Meeting,
that some information respecting the Passamaquoddy Indians
should be obtained, the Committee herewith present the sub-
stance of a Letter addressed to one of their number, by a late In-
dian Agent in the State of Maine.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m^o 20, 1839. John Warren."

Which, with some explanatory and interesting remarks from
Friends of the Committee, relative to the improvements that
have been made in the situation of this Tribe, since Friends
first extended a care towards them, encouraged us to believe
that they will be still further benefitted by the care of this
Meeting; and we appoint our Friends John Warren, Caleb
Nichols, Samuel Taylor, jun^r, Edmund Bates, Elisha Jones
of Windham, Stephen Jones, jun^r, John D. Long, Fowl^r Greene,
David Rust, and William Jenkins to continue such fur-
ther labours for the amelioration of their condition, as way may
open for, and report to this Meeting next year. And our
Treasurer was requested to pay to John Warren, the sum of
$50.— to be appropriated, under the care of the Committee,
towards carrying into effect the objects that Friends have
heretofore had in view in this concern.

The following is the information respecting the Pas-
samaquoddy Tribe of Indians referred to in the report of the
above Committee; which it was satisfactory to the Meeting to
receive; but way did not open for any action thereon at the
present time.

1839. "The Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians is now composed of about six hundred persons, and are said to increase. They have 300 acres of land at Pine Island in the town of Sipe, five miles from Eastport, on which they principally reside. They have also a Township on Schoodic river, the fee of which is in the State. At their village at Point Pleasant they have a Catholic Meeting House. Their dwellings for the most part are but temporary huts, but some of them have comfortable houses well finished. They receive from timber cut on their Schoodic township, 1000 dollars per annum, which is divided equally among them. The State has held out an inducement to turn their attention to agriculture & Samuels by offering a bounty upon the purchase of their lands, & furnishing them with farming utensils. In the year this report was about 70 bushels of wheat and several hundred bushels of potatoes. The women are generally industrious, but the men are indolent. Most of them speak English so as to be tolerably well understood and some of the children speak it very young. Many of them have changed their custom of dress. It is said they are quite temperate, and it is a rare occurrence to see one of them intoxicated. A few of them read and write intelligibly; one of them reads and writes well, and has a neat built house, finished in the English style, and furnished well, a yoke of oxen, two cows, &c. and makes a good living, and is a man of respectability. Most or all of them are Catholic, and have had a Catholic Priest residing with them for the last five years. They are of a roving disposition, and are much engaged in fishing and hunting."

The Committee appointed to obtain subscriptions, to be appropriated for the benefit of the Indians residing West of the Mississippi, report, that they have attended to the appointment, & have collected the sum of $714, for this object, from Friends in attendance at this Meeting. Signed on behalf of the Com.te by Daniel Gould.

And the Committee were released & pay to Arnold Congdon, the amount received, to be held by him subject to the direction of the Committee of Correspondence on Indian concerns, agreeably to a previous minute of this Meeting.

The following Friends, viz!

Rowland Green,
John Warren,
Isaac Tabor,
Walter Allen,
Thomas Howland,
James Tucker,
Abraham Shearman, Jr.
Elias Newhall,
Matthew Farnum,
John Brown,
James M. Hoy,
Edward King,
Benjamin Hoy,
Nicholas Easton,
Thomas Anthony,
Joshua Mowdon,
John Osborne,
William Jenkins,
Jonathan Dennis,
David Buffum,
Elijah Chase,
Caleb Nichols,
Isaac Peak,
Prince Gardner,
William Reynolds,
Daniel Johnson,
Moses Shurtleff,
Moses Farnum,
Joseph Nicholls,
Andrew Nichols,
John Meader,
Arnold Congdon,
George Howland,
Nathan Pope,
Seth Kelley, of Warm.
Samuel Boyd Tobey,
John D. Lang,
Moses H. Brown,
Samuel Taylor, Jr.
Edmund Chase,
Allen King,
Samuel Boyce.

being proposed by the Committee, to which that subject was referred, were appointed to constitute a Meeting for sufferings for the year ensuing; or till another appointment.

1830.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed in 1827, and continued last year, to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals, as in their apprehension occasion might require and way open for, and to labour for the preservation of love and unity, and the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, made report, That they have paid attention to their appointment, and that some labour has been bestowed, which they trust has been useful, and that it appears to them, that usefulness would result from a similar appointment at the present time.

Signed on behalf of the Committee, by Tho.s Howland & Elizabeth Wing.

Which being considered, was united with, and our friends Howland Jones, Thos. Anthony, John Wilbur, Edw.d Wing, John D. Lang, Benj.a Hacker, Silas East, Mr. Shearman, jun.r Thos.s Rowland, Daniel Hathaway, Daniel Jones, Benj.a Chase, John Brown, Edm.d Coates, Wm. Robb, Moses Starkey, Enoch Broad, Wm. Jenkins, John Wonder & Coates Newhall, now under appointment, were continued in this service, and with the addition of George Howland and Samuel Jones, were requested to proceed therein as way may open and best wisdom direct; & report to our next Yearly Meeting.

And the attention of the Committee was requested to a consideration of the differences subsisting into, view by the answer to the 2d Query from Falmouth, as existing in one of their Monthly Meetings, and to move therein as in their judgment may be best, should those differences not be otherwise terminated.

The following Certificate of the acceptable Gospel labours among us at the present time, of our beloved friend Daniel Wheeler, from Great Britain, being presented by the Committee to which it was referred to prepare Certificates for our Friends now with us from abroad, was feelingly united with, and the Clerk was directed to furnish him with a copy thereof, signed on our behalf.

viz.

To the Monthly Meeting of Bath, in Great Britain,
Quarterly Meeting of York, & Morning Meeting
of Ministers and Elders, in London.

Our beloved friend Daniel Wheeler, from Great Britain has been acceptably with us at this time. His company, exemplary deportment and Gospel service have been strengthening and encouraging to us. In observing that his labours of love may be brought to a close within our limits, before another year, we feel it proper thus to certify on his behalf, with feelings of Brotherly love, and with desires that when his Gospel mission in this land is fully accomplished, he may be favoured to return to his family and friends with the reward of peace.

Signed by the Clerks of both Meetings.

The company and religious services of our beloved friends Joseph Edgerton and John Wood have been acceptable to us at this Meeting, as also the company of our beloved friend Henry Knowles and William Dewsey, and the Clerk was directed to furnish them with copies of this Minute as it relates to each respectively.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

1830.

Sixth day morning, the 21st.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The Representatives were all present.

The following essay of an Epistolary communication to our subordinate Meetings being read, and deliberately considered, was united with, and the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. (See below.)

Essays of communications to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent were produced to the Committee appointed for that purpose, and being approved were directed to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and transmitted to those Meetings respectively.

The Clerk was authorized to make any necessary extracts from our minutes not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

During the several sittings of this Meeting we have been mercifully favoured, as we humbly trust, to experience in measure the blessed help of the Great Head of the Church, through which we have been enabled to proceed in attending to the concerns that have claimed our attention in much brotherly love; under a thankful sense of which, we conclude, purposing to meet on this Island at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

Epistle
from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England,
to its subordinate Meetings.

Being again permitted to meet in our annual Assembly, our dear absent Friends have been affectionately brought to our remembrance and we have been desirous that they might be partakers to some extent with us, in the exercises and interesting concerns that have claimed our attention.

Our meeting has been large and solemn; and we have had cause reverently to acknowledge that the mercy of ancient Goodness has been in measure mercifully over us, and under its covering we have been favoured to conduct the concerns of the Church that have come before us, in much brotherly love — to the Lord be the praise. We have had the acceptable company of several dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings, who have laboured to our comfort and edification.

By the Answers to the Queries, it appears that there are many deficiencies within our borders and we have been brought earnestly to desire that there may be an engaged concern among our members individually, faithfully to labour for their removal. Neglect of attending meetings for divine Worship, particularly in the middle of the week, and a want of love and unity are among the principal deficiencies that are known to exist. Love to God and love to man — on these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. When we remember our dependence upon Al-

1830 mighty God; when we reflect that every blessing that we enjoy, both temporal and spiritual, cometh from Him; that all things were formed and are still sustained by the word of His power; that it is of His mercy that we are not consumed; how can we neglect the solemn service of assembling ourselves together to worship Him? And how, beloved Friends, can we, but with our petition to Him, that He will be pleased to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, while we continue to harbour in our hearts unkind feelings towards a brother! If we are wanting in these two most essential qualifications of the Christian — love to God and love to man, it is in vain for us to attempt to support unflinchingly, any one religious principles and testimonies: and we have been repeatedly made sensible that a deficiency herein had led to the other departures that have been brought to our notice. Let us, dear Friends, scrupulously examine ourselves and know the condition of our hearts in this respect.

Among the failures in duly maintaining our religious testimonies we notice with sorrow, some of a military nature. The faithful support of our religious views of the peaceable nature of the Gospel of Christ has been felt by us at this time to be of great weight. We believe that our predecessors in religious faith had their minds divinely illuminated to understand the teachings of Christ & his Apostles on this subject and that it is our duty to endeavour to come up faithfully in their footsteps. There are, as we apprehend, errors on either hand, on this important doctrine: but we earnestly crave for our members that they may be preserved in the ancient christian ground of our religious society; believing that they will find this to be practical and safe ground for them to stand upon.

It is a day, beloved Friends, when the eyes of the people are much turned towards us; and we have ardently coveted that our light might so shine before men that they seeing our good works in us glorify our Father who is in Heaven.

The doctrine of the necessity of the immediate, qualifying power of the Holy Spirit in order for the discharge of religious duty, has ever been a fundamental principle of our Society, and must continue to be acknowledged by all faithful Friends as being necessary for us practically to receive. Our testimonies against War, Oaths, Slavery, &c. are religious testimonies; and we believe we can only successfully plead them before the world, or effectively enforce them upon others, as we receive this Heavenly qualification from the Great Head of the Church.

This Meeting has been introduced into much concern that our members may be preserved from attempting in their own time and strength to do the work of the Lord. Remember the declaration of the dear Redeemer — "My time is not yet come; but your time is always ready." And we have been led to fear that in associating with others who do not acknowledge, as we do, the need of this immediate, divine qualification in order for the performance religious duties, we are in great danger of neglecting this fundamental principle, and of attempting to act with them in our own strength and zeal and thus lose that ability to labour successfully in the

1830. Lord's cause in this day. It is graciously declared to vouchsafe to those whom He calls to his service. And under this feeling of concern we believe it right for us tenderly to persuade our dear Friends to avoid mingling with the various associations of the day for the support of those benevolent institutions which our society has, providentially felt itself called upon to bear before the world; but keeping together as a religious body, in humble looking unto the great Head of his people for Holy assistance, we may yet trust, in the Lord's own good time, to be in some measure the humble instruments in His hand of doing His blessed will.

Oh! dear Friends, let us be engaged to watch unto prayer; let us gather home in the spirits of our minds unto the Great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, and reverently wait upon Him; that thus we may be preserved from the spirit, the maxims and the policy of the world that leads unto death. May we be favoured to abide in Christ — "As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can we except we abide in me." And now, beloved Friends, farewell. We desire that in simple faith we may commit ourselves into the preserving hand of Him who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy — to whom be glory and majesty, dominion and power forever."

Signed by direction, and on behalf of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 16th to the 21st, inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1839.

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.
Hannah Gould, jun. Clerk.

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, from the 16th to the 21st, inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1839, to other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London

Dear Friends,

Through the continued extension of Divine mercy we have been again permitted to meet in our Annual Assembly, and have been favoured to attend to the concerns of the Church in much brotherly love, having been brought, unworthy as we are, in measure to experience that the wing of ancient Goodness has been over us. For which we desire to return thanks to the Lord, whom we are bound to acknowledge hath hitherto helped us. — Great indeed are his mercies to the children of men, and in view of them how should we be bowed and humbled before Him. — Truly it is of his mercy that we are not consumed.

We have at this time been introduced into renewed concern that all our members may become more and more rooted & established in the everlasting truths of the Gospel — that they may know their feet surely planted upon the Rock of Ages, Christ Jesus, the only foundation on which we can build. — But let us take care how we build on this foundation, remembering the declaration of the Apostle, that "every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. — If

1830. any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon he shall receive a reward."

It remains to be a solemn truth as declared by our Saviour — "It is not every one that crieth Lord, Lord, that shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven." — And in order that we may be the blessed doers of the will of God, how important that we should wait upon Him to know His will revealed in our hearts. The practice of our forefathers in religious profession in this respect has been instructively remembered by us. How careful were they to wait upon the Lord; to look unto Him for direction and for Holy assistance in the performance of all the various religious duties required at their hands. And, dear Friends, if we of the present day would walk in the same path, we also must seek for the same divine qualification by which alone fruits can be brought forth to his praise. We cannot by our own strength and in our own wisdom perform any religious service, but with the Apostle must acknowledge, "It is God that worketh in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure."

If we would be partakers of the full benefits of the sufferings of Christ we must become his devoted followers — must be baptized with his baptism and experience the new birth, without which no man can see the kingdom of God.

The condition of our religious society within our own borders, indicates the need of a deeper indwelling of Spirit; a nearer gathering to the Great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, in whose Holy keeping alone is true safety. That his gracious arm may be still round about us as a people, and that we may be individually preserved from the many snares that are spread in our way, should be our continued concern and fervent prayer.

Our present Meeting has been larger than usual, and has proved an interesting and solemn season. Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been satisfactory & comforting to us.

We continue as for many years past to extend some care to the Penobscot tribe of Indians, and have this year united in a proposal from New York Yearly Meeting, to endeavour to give some assistance to the Indians situated beyond the Mississippi. We still feel a lively interest for the coloured population of our country, and we trust as way may from time to time open for it, we shall be ready to do them good.

We have had at this time the acceptable company of several dear brethren from different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and of our beloved friends Daniel Wheeler and Thomas and Elizabeth Robson from your country.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends, Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun^r Clerk.

David Buffum, Newport,
William Jenkins, Providence,
Thomas Howland, East-Greenwich
John Wilbur, Hopkinton,
} R. Island

Ab^m Shearman jun^r New Bedford, Massachusetts,

are appointed our Correspondents with your Meeting.

To Ireland?

Dear Friends,

Although we have not received any communication from you at this time, nevertheless you have been in our remembrance during this our annual Assembly, and we have desired that a correspondence between you and us, may be continued, for our mutual consolation & furtherance in the work whereunto we as a religious Society are called; that these salutations of brotherly love may continue, and be the means of strengthening one another to stand fast in the Lord, and to keep the profession of our faith without wavering.

Our Meeting has been large, and our minds have been led to the acknowledgment of the tender mercies of our Holy Head, in that He continues to visit us with his dayspring from on High, notwithstanding our backslidings and our unfaithfulness in the sight of the testimonies given to our Forefathers and to us, to uphold among the people, for the honour of his great Name. And may we feel bound ever to commemorate his merciful interposition for the accomplishing of that blessed object of turning men from darkness to light, and redeeming them from the power of Sin and Satan unto God.

And in relation to the dispensations of Him who hath led captivity captive and given gifts unto men, that of a living ministry, is not among the least. This gift of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, when exercised in all "humility and lowliness," and under the immediate leading and anointing of Him who alone can open the springs of Life, is a blessing and a comfort to the Lord's people.

P. May all then, dear Friends, both with you and with us, watch unto prayer, that we as a People may continue to dwell in the light of the Lord, and seek unto Him for that anointing which "teacheth all things, and is Truth," and is "no lie;" that so we may be prepared, both to receive his gifts and callings, and to exercise them in a manner that will be well pleasing to Him, to the promotion of His cause, and to the glory of His excellent Name, as well as to our own peace, consolation and salvation.

With the salutation of brotherly love, we are

Your Friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Philadelphia?

Dear Friends,

We are again met in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, and have received acceptable Epistles from our dear Friends in Great Britain, as well as from most of those in our own land. These renewed proofs of brotherly regard have raised desires in our hearts for the welfare of the Church, that we may continue to be one body, united under the one Great Head, to his praise.

But dear Friends, in order that this may be our experience, how important that we cultivate love to God and love to the brethren. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." May we watch unto prayer, that the enemy may not be permitted to sow dissensions among us, under any of

1839 his precious prudence. — "What I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." — was the injunction of our Blessed Lord: and how important it is at all times to keep in remembrance this divine command. There are in the church diversities of gifts; and if each individual is favoured to move in in his right sphere how beautiful will be the order and harmony; but if there be dissensions between the members of the body, and if the eye say unto the hand, I have no need of thee — discord and division must ensue; for "God hath set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him:" for he "hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: that there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one of another; and whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it."

Dear Friends, Let us cultivate brotherly affection, giving evidence to the world that we are preferring one another in love, and let not the language, "I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas," but rather let us "be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment," and endeavour in true faith to be all of Christ.

We recommend the sentiment in your acceptable Epistle, "that the doctrine of the Light of Christ as an inward and spiritual Guide, a Light to enlighten our paths and lead us along in the way of life and salvation, for which our early Friends so nobly contended, is as precious now as in their day." With them we believe that such was the love of our heavenly Father to poor sinful man, that he gave his only begotten Son a Light, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life; that by His death and sufferings he might offer up Himself, a sacrifice to God for our sins." How unspeakably precious is this gift to the children of men, and how should we be bowed in gratitude to the Father of mercies, that in the counsels of His wisdom, He was pleased to send His dear Son into the world, who by the shedding of His precious blood has opened the way of life and salvation to the whole human family.

It may be interesting to you to know, that we still continue to extend some care to the Penobscot tribe of Indians; and that we have this year united with a proposition from our brethren of New York Yearly Meeting, to co-operate in endeavouring to afford some aid to the great number now situated West of the Mississippi.

Our Meeting has at this time been large, and we may thankfully acknowledge, that in the abounding mercy of our Heavenly Father, the Wing of His goodness has been in measure again spread over us, comforting our minds, and enabling us renewedly to put our trust in Him.

With the salutation of love, we are your Brethren,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk.

Dear Friends,

We desire reverently to acknowledge the obligations we are under to the Great Head of the Church, in again permitting us to meet together in this our annual Assembly, and to feel an evidence that, notwithstanding our many deviations and short comings, His presence has been witnessed among us; and it is, I believe we trust, under a measure of his Holy help, that we have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns which have come before us, with much harmony.

In reviewing the state of Society as brought under our notice by the Answers to the Queries, it has been cause of deep humiliation to the rightly exercised, in perceiving the sorrowful declension of some among us, from the simplicity of the Truth, and who have thereby come short in the support of some of our ancient testimonies, which we as a religious Society are bound faithfully to maintain; and we cordially respond to the sentiment contained in your acceptable Epistle ——— "May they never fall to the ground thro' our unfaithfulness."

May we realize the necessity there is of a close search being made throughout the camp; for indeed we have found that the accuser of the brethren is busying around our borders, endeavouring to find some unguarded avenue whereby he may enter and lay waste our goodly heritage. But oh! may we be stimulated more and more in true humility of heart and abasedness of soul, to repair to the watch tower and there patiently wait for the clear intimations of His will, who is strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present helper in the needful time.

Our Committee continued last year to correspond with similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings, relative to the Indians west of the Mississippi, have made a satisfactory report to this Meeting; and subscriptions for the amelioration of their condition have been cheerfully entered into at this time. ———

And whilst we feel desirous to lend our aid in their behalf, we also deeply feel for the African race in our land, who are unjustly held in cruel bondage. And we earnestly desire that Friends every where may be duly impressed with the importance of this momentous subject, and endeavour to seek right ability and qualification to labour successfully in this great and righteous cause. But whilst we feel an earnest solicitude that the time may not be far distant, when the prison doors shall be opened, and the oppressed go free; we would tenderly exhort Friends to be with us, and with you, to bear in mind the Scripture declaration, that the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong; and however solicitous we may feel to effect so desirable an object, let us ever remember, that it is only as we wait for that wisdom which is profitable to direct, that we shall be enabled to labour effectively in this cause.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends,
Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting by
Abraham Sharman, jun.r Clerk.

1839.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of 10th mo last has been received, and in the reading thereof, you have been affectionately brought to our remembrance. We cordially respond to the sentiment contained therein, that it is only by the one effectual baptism, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, that we can be introduced into living fellowship with each other, and with our Holy Head. And we believe that it is only as we become willing to submit to the purifying operations of this baptism that we can experience a growth in grace — as saith the Apostle, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

And although in looking at the state of Society as presented by our subordinate meetings, we may be ready at times to say with the Prophet, "O see how Jerusalem lieth waste, yet as we become concerned in humble dedication of heart to labour in true faith, placing all our dependence upon Him who can carry on his work by many or by few, and endeavouring from day to day to follow the guidance of his Holy Spirit, we believe we may yet become instrumental in repairing some of the waste places in our Heritage. Our Saviour declared, "Without me ye can do nothing." May we, dear Friends, be encouraged to run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is now set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Now this to become individually the case, we believe that the various testimonies of our Society, which originated in the Spirit of the Gospel, would become increasingly precious, and many of the deficiencies existing in the maintenance thereof would be removed from among us.

The Committee appointed to correspond with Committees from other Yearly Meetings upon the subject of improving the condition of the Indians west of the Mississippi, made an interesting report, and much feeling and sympathy was manifested for the welfare of this much injured class of our fellow beings. And a Committee was continued, to act in unison with similar Committees from other Yearly Meetings, to aid and assist them in such manner as way may open for.

The subject of the abolition of Slavery continues to claim our serious attention; and desires have been renewedly raised in our hearts, that in all our efforts for the removal of this great evil from our land, we may keep to the ground of the religious concern. Were we to become thus engaged, we believe that times and seasons would occur, when in the openings of Truth, the cause of the oppressed might be availingly pleaded, and the hearts of the oppressors inclined to justice and humanity.

Our Meeting has at this time been large, and we trust that through the sittings thereof, we have felt a precious evidence that, poor and unworthy as we are, the Lord has not forgotten to be

gracious. To him be all the glory and dominion, for ever and ever.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Although we have not received any Epistolary communication from you at this time, yet we trust we shall be but in the exercise of Christian freedom, if we address you as brethren not forgotten, but as those held in affectionate remembrance, whose encouragement we sincerely desire. Under this feeling which have ever characterized the Society we believe our correspondence has been reciprocally sustained, and the welfare of the Church promoted. Through this medium at the present time we may inform you that we have again been favoured to meet in our annual assembly, that it has been larger than perhaps at any former time; and that in transacting the various concerns that have come before it much brotherly kindness has prevailed.

We have been made at this time encouragingly to feel, that the Great Head of the Church still condescends to hear the cry of his dependent children, and to satisfy his poor with bread. That however numerous may be our trials, however we may be stripped and peeled, we may still look unto Him with the full assurance that his arm is not shortened nor his ear heavy, but that in the abundings of his mercy, he yet continues to be gracious. Let us then, dear Friends, in humble confidence still trust in the name of the Lord, and we shall find Him to be unto us strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present Helper in the needful time.

Among the subjects, other than those which relate to our own members, that have unceasingly claimed the attention of the Meeting, is the condition of the Aborigines of this country, now residing West of the Mississippi, and the Yearly Meeting has appointed a Committee to correspond with Committees of other Yearly Meetings, and particularly that of New York, upon this subject, with a view to the promotion of their welfare. The continuance of a system of great injustice and cruelty practised towards this class of our fellow men, as well as those of the African race, are evils which we deeply deprecate; and while they call forth feelings of the tenderest sympathy, the mind in looking to the system is sometimes impressed with awful apprehensions, lest the visitations of those righteous judgments which the Almighty in his unerring wisdom has seen meet to dispense on guilty and obdurate men, in former ages, may be extended toward this nation. And we earnestly desire, that neither the remoteness of the former class, nor yet the more immediate connection with the latter, may in any measure render us less susceptible of the wrongs and injustice they are compelled to endure, or prevent our embracing every right opening that may be made, wherein the Society can under the influence of brotherly and

Christian

1839. Christian feeling, continue their endeavours to relieve them from their suffering and degraded condition.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends,
Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting, &c.
Abraham Sharman, jun' Clerk D.

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

In being permitted again to assemble in the present capacity, we feel bound gratefully to commemorate the goodness of the Lord; and to rejoice in the acknowledgment that he is indeed Head over all things to his Church; that notwithstanding our abundant causes of humiliation, his mercies are not extended to us, and warrant are our desires that the persevering Israel wherever scattered may be afresh encouraged to confide in Him whose covenant is as sure with the night as with the day. We have felt at the present annual assembly his mercies to be new every morning. And under a grateful sense thereof we desire to return thanks to his Holy Name.

The state of society as unfolded to our view in the answers to the Queries at this time, elicited much pertinent counsel, and the word of exhortation was feelingly communicated. The neglect of the attendance of Midweek meetings and those for discipline was a subject of close exercise to many minds. May not this deficiency be traced to a want of love to God, and the undue love of the world? "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him." May such among you, as well as among us as have not yet been brought to the necessity of thus presenting themselves a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, have their hearts so illuminated by the Light of Truth as plainly to see that it is their reasonable service? One omission of duty prepares the way for another. Let us then draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for he is faithful that hath promised. And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

We acknowledge the reception of your interesting Epistle of Eleventh month last. We rejoice that the suffering condition of the African race in North Carolina and of the Cherokee tribe of Indians continue to claim your consideration; and we sympathize with you in the trials and responsibilities which your peculiar situation imposes in reference to these oppressed classes of our fellow men. May you be favoured, dear Friends, in the advocacy of their cause, with a portion of that wisdom from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated; full of mercy and good fruits. Thus, and thus only, will the testimony of Truth against all unrighteousness be preserved in its original ground.

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"The diligently guarded education of our beloved youth is a subject of deep and abiding interest." The importance of the trust committed to parents and others having the care of young persons was impressively urged. "They were encouraged to embrace suitable opportunities for communicating to their tender charge instruction suited to their years — with the hope, that, under the Divine blessing, the effects of such instruction may be to their lasting advantage.

Our Meeting on the present occasion is larger than usual, and several Friends from other Yearly Meetings are mingled with us.

"With the salutation of love, we are your Friends & Brethren, Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting: by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk

To Ohio.

Dear Friends.

Your acceptable letter of the 9th month last, has been received and we have been comforted in believing that there are still many who are earnestly concerned to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints, and who set a just value upon those precious doctrines and testimonies for the faithful maintenance of which, our worthy predecessors in the truth suffered so much.

We are glad to learn that you are still interested on behalf of the Indian tribes. They are a people who have strong claims upon us, and we trust it will be the concern of Friends generally to endeavour, under Divine guidance, to promote their welfare as opportunity may present. We too have been brought at this time deeply to sympathize with them in their sufferings, and have appointed a Committee to correspond with Committees that may be appointed by other Yearly Meetings, in endeavouring to advance the interests of those situated beyond the Mississippi. We would also encourage you in your benevolent endeavours to ameliorate the condition of the coloured population, believing that the Most High regardeth with abhorrence, all manner of cruelty and oppression, and that if we would acceptably do His will, we must be willing to obey the Rule laid down by our blessed Saviour, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Our Meeting has been large, and though the continued mercy of the Head of the Church we have not been unfaithful to act in unity, that as "the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people henceforth, even forever." Great indeed are the privileges which as a people enjoy, and great too are the obligations under which we are laid to walk worthy of the high vocation wherewith we are called. We have been at this time introduced into a renewed concern that our members may come individually to know an increase in true and living faith, even that faith which works by love and purifies the heart, and which gives to the devoted servants of Christ the victory over the world.

We have had at this Meeting the acceptable company of divers Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labours in the love of the Gospel have been to our edification.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid.

Wishing the salutation of love, we are your Friends.

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk

1839. To Indiana.

Dear Friends.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th mo. last, has been received and read at this time. The perusal of this testimonial of Brotherly regard, together with those from other Yearly Meetings, has revived in us an evidence that the members of our religious Society wherever situated, are one people, holding the same precious doctrines, animated by the same holy faith, baptized with the one baptism, and heirs of the same blessed promises, for one is our Master, even Christ, and all we are brethren.

It is only, dear Friends, by a frequent recurrence to first principles, and a faithful adherence to the ground of our union, that religious fellowship can be permanently maintained.— From our origin as a distinct religious community, it has been found that a defection in principle, and an abandoning of our precious testimonies, have originated in a want of faithfulness to that guidance and power which first gathered us to be a people; and that a re-establishment upon the immutable foundation has been attained only through the baptising power of the Holy Spirit. Thus we become more grounded and established on the rock of Ages; ever bearing in mind the testimony of the Apostle. Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

By the Answers to the Queries we are encouraged to believe, that though there is a deficiency in the maintenance of some of our testimonies, there is a living concern amongst for the prosperity of Zion. We believe that our merciful Redeemer still condescends to teach his people himself; and that it is his holy purpose, as we submit to the teachings of his Spirit, to sanctify and cleanse his Church with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

The guarded education of our children continues to claim the anxious solicitude of the Meeting. We are glad to learn that your Boarding school concern presents so favourable an aspect.— We desire your encouragement in this and every other measure for promoting the durable welfare of our religious Society.

Our Committee to encourage the Penobscot Indians in the arts of civilized life, reported that this remnant of the Aborigines of our country continue gradually to improve in civilization; and the Meeting has thought it best to continue to extend some care over them. The condition of the Indians West of the Mississippi, has excited much sympathy and concern in our minds at this time, for that deeply injured remnant of a once numerous people, and we have united with a proposition made by New-York Yearly Meeting, in endeavouring to ~~Send them~~ some aid.

The condition of the coloured people in our land who are cruelly held in bondage continues to call forth our tender sympathy; but way has not opened at this time for the adoption of any active measures on their behalf. We hope, however, that Friends every where will be alive to this momentous

1839. concern and allow no opportunity to pass unimproved that Friends a right framing for divine wisdom what they may towards removing that great evil from our land. Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and in addition to that of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, we have had the company of our dear Friends Daniel Wheeler and Thomas and Elizabeth Robson from Great Britain.

With the salutation of love, we remain

Your Friends & Brethren

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

1840. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode Island, commencing with public meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-Day the 11th, and at Newport, for Discipline, on Second-day morning, the 13th of 6th mo. 1840.

Accounts being received from our several Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, are

For Rhode-Island, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Macomber, Othniel Foster, Benjamin Buffinton, John Wilbur, Allen Wing, David Buffum, William Jenkins. For Salem, Enoch Brady, Nathan Boad, of Lynn, Samuel Boyce, Jonathan Nichols, Moses Buntington, jun. Nathan Page, Jonathan Boade. For Sandwich, George Howland, Barn. Tabor, Paul Wing, Benjamin Gardner, Seth Davis, Seth Kelley, Isaac R. Gifford, John Macomber, Samuel Brown. Falmouth, Thomas Jones, John W. Mixod, William Cobb, Nathan Pope, Joshua Douglas, William Parenton, Samuel Jones. Smithfield, Jon.a Fry, John Mitchell Earle, Edward Foster, Silas Earle, John Osborne, Vassalborough, Samuel Taylor, jun. Clement Ratcliff, Elijah Pope, Daniel Smiley, Cornelius Douglas, Eli Jones. Dover, Joseph Tuttle, John D. Lang, Joseph Varney, Lindley M. Hoag.

Whose names being called, they were all present but two.

Having at this time the company of our beloved friend Joseph John Gurney, of Great Britain, the Certificates of the unity of his Friends with his ministry and present religious engagements in this country, which were laid before this Meeting when he was acceptably with us in the year 1838, were again presented and read.

We have also the company of our beloved friends Richard Mott, of Purchase M.o Meeting, N.Y. and John P. Kirkbride, of Baltimore, Maryland — who produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry and present religious engagements.

Our friend Henry Hinsdale also produced a minute of New York Monthly Meeting, expressive of their unity with his accompanying our friend Joseph John Gurney on his present religious visit to New England.

The general Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London last year, was received and read at this

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time; the salutary counsels of which on various subjects, interesting to us as individuals, or relating to the welfare of Society at large, were to our edification and comfort.

Acceptable Epistles addressed to us from our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings in unity with us, on this continent, were also received and read.

Our friends Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, William Jenkins, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd, Toby, John Meader, Paul Mining, John Osborne, Isaac Mitchell, John Brown, Prince Gardner, Samuel Taylor, jun.r, Isaac R. Gifford, Samuel Boyce, Thomas Harkness, Caleb Nichols, Eli Jones, John Wilbur, Joseph Davis, Moses H. Beede, Jon.a L. Slocum, Caleb Jones, & John Warren were desired, as way may open for it, to prepare essays of communications to those Meetings respectively, and present them at a future sitting or sittings.

It appears that our several Quarterly Meetings have given the necessary attention to the forwarding of their respective proportions of Stock in our Treasurer, as required last year.

William Peynot, Jr. Micajah B. Paul, George W. Baker, Rufus Easton, jun. John Osborne, Daniel Tabor, and Joshua Meader were appointed a Committee to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and report the state thereof; also to consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the present year, and to propose a Treasurer.

By the accounts received at this time from the Quarterly Meetings, we are informed: That Rhode-Island has united with South-Kingston Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Timothy C. Collins to the place of an Elder. — That Salem has united with Scalawank Mo. Meeting in approving the public Ministry of Moses Huntington, jun.r That Sandwich has united with Nantucket Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Prince Gardner to the station of an Elder; and with Sandwich Mo. Meeting in approving the public Ministry of Samuel Gifford. — That Falmouth has united with Durham Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Caleb Hawkes to the station of an Elder. — That Smithfield has united with Uxbridge Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Rebe S. Marsh to the same station. — That Nassaborough has united with Litchfield Mo. Mg. in the appointment of William Farr; with Unity Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Joseph Tabor, Elizabeth Gibbey, and Elizabeth Cole; and with Sidney Mo. Mg. in the appointment of Joseph Taylor and Rhoda Taylor to the station of Elder.

We are informed by the account from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, that our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson, accompanied by her husband Thomas Robson, has acceptably attended that Meeting several times within the last year; and also all the Meetings composing it; and visited nearly all the families, to the satisfaction and encouragement of Friends. — They also acceptably attended the Quarterly Meeting of

1840. Dover in the 8th month last — And have since our last Yearly Meeting visited all the Meetings constituting Salem Quarter, to the satisfaction of Friends — as appears by the accounts from those Meetings respectively.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Friends again met pursuant to adjournment — Rowland Greene on behalf of the Representatives informed the Meeting that they had consulted together, and were united in proposing the re-appointment of Abraham Shearman, jun. as Clerk, and Samuel Boyd Tobey as Assistant-Clerk; which being considered, was approved, and they were appointed to those services for the year ensuing.

The Minutes of our last Yearly Meeting were read; agreeably to our usual practice.

The Annual Report of the Committee having the superintendence of the Boarding School under the care of this Meeting, was produced and read, and being satisfactory to Friends, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. — It follows: —

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The School Committee report, That they have endeavored during the past year to attend to the service to which they were appointed by the Yearly Meeting. The average number of Scholars, for the year, has been eighty six; for the past term, one hundred and eighteen. Meetings for divine worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the vacations; and harmony has prevailed.

"Our friends Asa and Alice Hunt continue to serve acceptably as Superintendents. Samuel Austin & Mary Chase are employed as Teachers in the male department, and Emmaline Aldrich and Elizabeth Osborne, in the female School. Jonathan L. Shoecam has been engaged in the Institution as a Teacher during the past year, and Charles F. Coffin, jun. & Sarah J. Brown as Assistant Teachers during the last term. Gerve F. Read continues to give instruction in the Languages, and to have charge of the accounts.

"The Treasurer's and Superintendent's accounts have been examined and settled; by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded its expenditures by $3.1411. 51. by which we are enabled to liquidate the debt of the Institution reported last year, and leave in the Treasury a balance of $1.136. 84. We do not think it expedient, however, to propose to the Yearly Meeting any considerable reduction in the terms of the admission of Scholars, as the situation of the house and premises is such that a pretty large expenditure will soon be required for repairs and improvements. For details of the receipts and expenses we refer to a copy of the Superintendent's account, herewith forwarded.

"Ten Scholars have enjoyed the privilege of the Charitable Fund the last term, and the same number may be received

1st 10.

for the next Winter term; and monthly meetings are requested to forward their applications for this privilege by the time of the meeting of the sub Committee, on the 2d of 9th mo. next.

"We would propose that the price per term, for admission of members of this Yearly Meeting, be $30, commencing with the ensuing Winter term: for those who are not members, one or both of whose Parents are members, should any such by direction of the Yearly Meeting be received, to continued at $45, and for members of other Yearly Meetings, $50: and that $10 per term additional charge should still be made for instruction in the Languages. Stationary and books, except such as are required for the study of the higher branches of Mathematics and the Languages, we would propose, should continue to be furnished at the expense of the Institution.

"In the discharge of the duties that have devolved upon us in the direction of the concerns of the School, we have been desirous to keep steadily in view the original design of Friends in its establishment, viz. "the imparting to the youth of our Society a religious, guarded education, free from the contaminating influences of the world." While situated in this Institution we feel that parents have a right to expect that their Children will be in good degree preserved from the unsettled things that abound in the world; that their tender minds will not receive impressions calculated to lessen their attachment either to the principles of our religious Society, or to the testimonies founded upon them. The press of the present day teems with publications, many of which are such as concerned parents would be unwilling should be placed within the reach of their Children; and to maintain our Christian discipline, by restraining, so far as we are able, from the reading of pernicious books," has appeared to us to be an important duty to be exercised by the Committee, and which we believe has rested with weight upon those who have been under this appointment, since the first establishment of the School. The time for which most of the pupils are placed in the Institution being limited, and necessarily mostly occupied in pursuing their regular studies, much opportunity is not afforded for general reading; and as the School is furnished with a valuable Library, consisting of not less than fourteen hundred volumes of well selected books, received principally from the bequests of our late beloved Friends Moses and Obadiah Brown, to which the children have free access, we thought it proper in the 11th month last, after carefully considering what books and publications it was best to use and receive in the School, to adopt the following regulation, viz. "Believing that the Library of this Institution, together with the books and periodicals that have already been approved by this Committee, will afford the means for as great a variety of reading as the time and best interests of the Scholars will require, it is our judgment that it is not advisable to extend the number at the present time; but that any books or publications brought by the Scholars, or sent to them, be laid aside and preserved for them until they leave the School,

Copy of Superintendents Acct

Dr

Yearly Meeting Boarding School in account with Allen Wing Superintendent Cr

1840
4 mo. 8 d.

To payment of outstanding debts last year $200.31.4

Amt of expenditures since 4 mo. 8 d. 1839 viz

Salaries		$ 2298.06
Books and Stationary		316.91
Labor		1062.45
Repairs and furniture		600.33
Fuel viz Wood 514.41		
Anthracite Coal 266.—		
Charcoal — 67.27 =		847.68
Flour		718.49
Butter		508.37
Cheese		18.69
Land		3.64
Meat		485.10
Fish		57.75
Hay, grain &c		391.33
Bread		188.20
Sugar		178.71
Molasses		209.41
Tea		31.30
Coffee		26.25
Lamp Oil		164.71
Vegetables		54.28
Rice		37.77
Medicines		24.53
Soap and Soda		68.30
Post Office		59.02
Articles for Scholars		595.93
Money refunded and due Scholars		199.95
Incidentals		75.78
		$ 9222.94
Balance		195.—
		$ 9618.25

Providence 4 mo. 8 d. 1840 —

1839
4 mo. 6 —
1840
4 mo. 8 d. —

By balance on settlement — $ 92.38

" Amt received from the Treasurer $ 2500 —

" " " Board and tuition of Scholars and advances to Allen — 6885.29

" " Articles sold — 94.65

" " from visitors — 45.93

" outstanding debts — 0.00

$ 9618.25

Balance brot down $ 195 —

Errors Excepted

(Signed) Allen Wing Superintendent

1840 a
Hucs. 8vo.

1840. or, if deemed best by the Superintendent, forwarded to their parents or guardians." While by adhering to this rule, we are aware that many workings are excluded with which we have no controversy, yet with the exercise of a sufficient liberality on the part of the Committee in the admission of those that will be likely to be productive of unsoundness, we apprehend its adoption will not be deemed objectionable, but we trust it will prove a relief and satisfaction to many parents in different portions of the Yearly Meeting, who wish to place their children in the Schools.

During the past year, with the exception of the latter part of the last Term, when the measles prevailed extensively, but mildly in the House, the various inmates of the family have been favoured with the enjoyment of nearly uninterrupted good health; which mercy, among the many we have received, calls for gratitude to Him from whom cometh all our blessings.

On behalf, and by direction of the School Committee,

Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

Boarding School, 5th mo. 8th, 1840.

The account of the Superintendent, accompanying the above Report, was also read.

The Friends now under appointment on the part of this Meeting, as a Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Boarding School, were continued for the ensuing year, to act therein in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting; and were requested to report next year.

George W. Baker, Perez Peck, Obey Thomson, Isaac R. Clifford, Samuel Taylor jun. Lindley M. Hoag, Joseph Tuttle and Timothy Clark Collins were desired to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries, received at the present time from the several Quarterly Meetings, and produce it at our morning sitting. Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 16th.

Again met according to adjournment. The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present except one from Smithfield, — for whose non attendance an excuse was rendered.

The Meeting, under a solemn sense of the importance of the subject, and which we trust was not lost sight of, during the course of its investigation entered upon a consideration of the State of Society as laid before us by the answers to the Queries from the several Quarterly Meetings, the reading of which was gone through with. Many pertinent remarks were made, and much of feeling counsel and advice offered, by concerned Friends now with us, as our various testimonies embraced in the Queries, were brought into view; and which we much desire may be treasured up, and so rest upon and influence the minds of many now present, as to become like bread cast upon the waters, that may be found after many days.

The

1840.

The following Summary, introduced by the Committee appointed for the purpose, embraces the substance of the Answers received, viz.

1st. - All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been duly held, with the exception of four small Meetings, and one small Monthly Meeting; the latter within the limits of Smithfield Quarter. Four of which being prevented by the inclemency of the weather and one by Friends being aware of attending their Quarterly Meeting. They have generally been attended by the greater part of Friends, yet there is a deficiency with some in this important duty, particularly as it respects mid-week Meetings and those for discipline. The hour is nearly observed. Mostly prevented from unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of sleeping excepted. Some care taken, how ordered.

2d. Love and unity are in good measure maintained by most of our members, yet not so fully by some as the truth requires; and Friends are mostly careful, with some exceptions, to guard against detraction. Endeavours are used to end differences when they arise.

3d. Care appears to prevail with most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness; to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and to be good examples therein themselves: yet it is manifest that there is with many a departure from the simplicity of our profession in these respects. The holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends families.

4th Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors, otherwise than for medicine, and of frequenting places of public resort, with the exception of a few instances, in which some care has been extended.

5th The circumstances of the poor have been inspected, and suitable assistance rendered them. Their children freely partake of learning to fit them for usefulness. There have been a few instances of children being placed out from among Friends. In three cases they were beyond their control. -

6th Our members are generally careful in regard to marriage, with the exception of a few instances of keeping company and marrying contrary to our Discipline. On which account some care has been taken.

7th Clear, except a few instances where our testimonies are not fully maintained in regard to Priests wages and service of a military nature; on which accounts care has been taken.

8th Generally careful in these respects, except a few instances of neglect in the timely inspection of affairs, and the consequent want of punctuality in the payment of debts.

9th Marriage certificates are all recorded; births and deaths mostly. A few instances of removal without certificate are mentioned as being under notice.

10th Care appears to be taken to deal with offenders in a good degree as required, though not in all cases so seasonably as would be best; and endeavours are used to place judgment according to Discipline.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on the proposition from Piscataquoggin Quarterly Meeting for a division of that Meeting, report,—

"That they have during the past year given some attention to their appointment, and are united in proposing the subject be continued another year, under the care of a Committee."

Signed on behalf of the Committee, by John Macy.
Hannah Cobb.

which being considered was united with, and the Friends now under appointment were continued to have charge of the subject, and were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before this Meeting and read. And the attention given by Friends of that Meeting to the various important subjects that have engaged their attention, including the preparation of the two Documents declaratory of the views of the Society in relation to Church Government, as also its views in relation to Civil Government was satisfactory to the Meeting.

The Friends now under appointment were continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

It was referred to the Committee on the Correspondence to prepare essays of Minutes or Indorsements for our Friends now with us from abroad, and produce them at a future sitting.

Adjourned to ½ past 10, tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day morning, the 17th.

Friends again assembled according to adjournment.

Representatives present, as yesterday.

The Committee on the concern of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians produced a Report, which, with the Letter from the Indian Agent of the State of Maine, accompanying it, was read;

The Report

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to have some care of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, Report, That two of the Committee made them a visit last autumn; and found them in a gradually improving condition. The Committee afforded the usual assistance to three Individuals, who were erecting dwelling houses, and also rendered Ten Dollars assistance to a young man desirous of obtaining some school learning. With this, we have concluded to lay before the Yearly Meeting a Letter addressed to one of the Committee, giving a more extended statistical account of the present state of this people, from the Indian Agent of the State of Maine. We would propose that Eighty Dollars be appropriated for this service the present year. Which is submitted

Amesbury, 6 mo. 16th. 1840. John Warren. for the Committee

[Extracts from the Letter of the Agent of the State of Maine, embracing all the statistical information therein contained.]

"The produce of their Farms for the year 1839, as proved to me, so as to receive the County, was 486 ¾ bushels Wheat—5 ditto Oats—119½. Beans & Peas 75½. Turnips & Parsnips 49½. Beets & Carrots—3173. Potatoes. Flax

1840. Their Hay and Corn I took no account of, as there is no bounty on those productions. Of Hay, several of the Families raised from 4 to 10 tons each. The Wheat crop would have been much larger, had it not been for the great freshet which commenced 30th May, and carried and washed many of their Islands. The Potatoe and other crops were proportionally injured, as it was from the 12th to the 20th of June before many of their Farms were dry enough to plant. We tried the Wheat crop in 1839, for the second time on the Islands, and it has succeeded better than was expected by any one on the River. The opinion seemed to be prevalent, that it would be so late in the Spring before we could get in the seed, on account of freshet, the rust would destroy the crop

"Generally, the Indians manifest an increasing interest in farming. Some few Families have cleared and cultivated considerable farms. I should think there are 9 or 10 Families that will, with their dividends, raise enough to support them the coming year, if the season is favourable. "The School on the Island does not answer my expectations. — Still, many of the Children learn well. — Their small Children do not understand the English language, consequently their progress must be very slow. Their roving habits too, operate much against them. — Sometimes at the School for a few weeks; then off as many months. — A few Children 12 & 14 years of age can read currently, in easy lessons, & write respectably. — "Quite a number of Families have settled down, and do not move to some other place, as has always been the practice in winter. Those Families do well. "It is my opinion that at least ten Families will be ready to build this season. 4 or 5 buildings the Indians say are in progress at this time, up river. They depend very much on the Friends to help them. - Several have been to me to know if they can have the assistance of $10, as formerly.

"Their grounds for the Spring crop were nearly all prepared last Fall; and the prospect is, that considerably more will be done by the Indians themselves this Spring, than formerly. — The water is, however, at this time very high, and the Land on which they intend to plant, very wet. But as it is so early for the freshet we are in hopes we shall be able to plant the wheat earlier than usual. "There are 56 Families in the Tribe which attend to farming. - Many of the other Families are young; and some of them have not been here since I have had charge of their affairs.

"In the Fall of 1837, there were 102 Families — whole No. of Inds. 391
"In the Fall of 1838, — 105 " " " 402
"In the Fall of 1839, — 110 " " " 441

A part of the increase of 1838 was occasioned by admission of 2 or 3 Families which had been long absent, and left off the books of the Agent. "By the Act approved 10th March 1838, requiring their Lots to be set off, I have caused to be surveyed about 130 Lots to the Indians severally.

Very respectfully
Henry Richardson
Ag't Penobscot Ind's."

Old Town, 30 Apr. 1840.

Stephen Jones. 2,

1840. 8 mo. "The information thus spread before us, affording renewed encouragement for our continued exertions on behalf of this people, the Friends now under appointment, with the addition of Jonathan Taber, of Vassalborough, and Joseph Metcalf, were requested to give such further attention to this service, as they may be enabled to devote to it, and report to this Meeting next year. And our Treasurer was requested to pay to our friend, John Warren, the sum of eighty dollars, to be appropriated, under direction of the Committee, in promoting the objects in view.

"The situation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians, respecting which some information was received by us last year, having been again feelingly brought under notice, — the Committee on the concerns of the Penobscot Tribe was encouraged, if way should open for it, to pay them a visit, and obtain such further information of their wants, and of their feelings towards Friends, to be laid before this Meeting next year, as may enable us, with a better understanding, to judge of the prospect of usefully extending some care towards them.

"The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, report that they have attended to that subject, and find a balance in his hands of nine hundred and twenty three $\frac{42}{100}$ dollars. They recommend that twelve hundred dollars be raised for the service of this Meeting the ensuing year; — and propose David Buffum for Treasurer.

William Reynolds, for the Committee.

Newport, 6 mo. 16 th, 1840.

"Which being considered, was satisfactory to us, and in conformity therewith, — David Buffum was appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing; — and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward him their respective proportions of $1200, the sum proposed to be raised.

Adjourned to the 5 th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. — Friends again met.

"The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed in 1837, and since continued to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals, as way might open, and circumstances in their judgment require, now produced the following Report,

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals as way might open for, Report, That several of their number have from time to time given such attention to their appointment as circumstances seemed to require, and have laboured with that ability which was afforded, to sustain the good order of our religious society.

"The case in Falmouth Quarterly Meeting specially referred to their care, received their attention, and the labour bestowed, they believe resulted to a good degree of satisfaction. "The

1840 The Committee are willing to suggest to the Yearly Meeting the propriety, in the present state of society, of appointing a Committee to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require, and may open for. Which is submitted,

On behalf of the Committee,
Thomas Anthony,
Elizabeth Wing

Newport, 6m° 17, 1840.

Which being read, and deliberately considered, was united with; and it being apprehended by Friends that usefulness will result from a new nomination of a Committee for these services, we appoint our friends John D. Lang, John Warren, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, Thomas Jones, Francis Taber, Matthew Pennington, Pierce Gardner, Caleb Nichols, William Jenkins, Seth Ruley, and Allen Wing, to consider of, and produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute such Committee on the part of this Meeting.

The proposition from the Meeting for Sufferings for reprinting the Book of Discipline, either in its present form, or with such revision, if any, as this Meeting might direct, was introduced to our consideration by the reading of the minute of last year on that subject. Many did not open in the minds of Friends for entering upon a revision at the present time; but learning more fully than we have been to see done, the great want of copies of the Discipline in some of our more remote Meetings, it was concluded that a small edition be printed, under the direction and care of the Meeting for Sufferings, to consist of such number of copies as in their judgment may be sufficient to supply these and any other deficiencies that may be found to exist, and for leaving on hand a suitable number for future exigencies. And said Meeting was authorised and requested to cause to be inserted under their appropriate heads, all the conclusions of this Meeting, that have been directed for insertion, since the Book was last printed. Also to take such measures for ascertaining the wants of Meetings, and for supplying them, when the work is completed, as they may deem proper.

And the Clerk was directed to lay a copy of this Minute before said Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 18th.

Again met, pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives present, as before.

The following Friends, viz. John Warren, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Edward Wing, John D. Lang, Silas Sarle, Abraham Shearman, jun. Perez Peck, David Buffum, Daniel Taber, Thomas Jones, Enoch Reed, Charles Chase,

1840. John Brown Samuel Taylor jun. Caleb Nichols, William Jenkins John Meader, George Howland, Samuel Jones, of Brunswick, Allen Wing, and Seth Kelley, of Yarmouth, being proposed by the Committee named yesterday afternoon, were appointed, to unite with a similar Committee of the Women's Meeting in extending a general care for the preservation of love and unity, and the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and in that ability that may be afforded them, to assist and advise such meetings and members as circumstances may require, and way open for, under the direction of best wisdom, — and were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The following Certificate of the acceptable company and services of our beloved friend Joseph John Gurney, of Great Britain, while with us in 1838, and again at the present time, was presented by the Committee to whom the subject was referred of preparing Certificates for Friends now with us from abroad, and being very fully united with, the Clerk was directed to furnish him with a copy thereof, signed on our behalf —

To the Monthly Meeting of Norwich, the Quarterly Meetings of Norfolk and Norwich, and the Yearly Meetings of Ministers and Elders held in London.

Dear Friends,

Our beloved friend Joseph John Gurney having acceptably attended this Yearly Meeting in 1838, and subsequently visited nearly all the Meetings constituting it, and with many among those not of our religious society, and also visited the families of some Meetings; and being again acceptably with us at this time, and apprehending that his labours of love in this country are nearly closed,

We feel engaged to inform you, that during his sojourn among us, his faithful ministry has been acceptable & edifying, his private labours instructive and encouraging, and his life and conversation consistent with his Christian profession — manifesting an ardent engagement for the promotion of the cause of Truth, and the welfare of his fellow men.

In now taking leave of our dear Friend, we commend him to the care of the condescending Shepherd, desiring his preservation, and safe return to his family and friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held in Rhode-Island from the 11th to the 19th inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1840, by

Abr.m Shearman jun. Clerk.
Hannah Gould, jun. Clerk.

The same Committee also presented the following essays of minutes for other Friends now acceptably with us; which were united with, and the Clerk was directed to furnish them with copies thereof, as related to each, signed by him on our behalf, viz —

Our beloved friend Richard Hall attended this Yearly His company and religious service have been acceptable and encouraging to us.

1840

Our beloved friend John C. Dalton attended this meeting. His company and religious service have been acceptable and encouraging to us.

Our beloved friend Thomas Kimber was present to our friend Joseph John Gurney attended this Meeting. His company and solid deportment was truly acceptable & encouraging to us.

The Committee on the concerns of the Indians located West of the Mississippi made a report, which with the interesting document from New York, therein referred to was read. The Report is as follows:

"To the Yearly Meeting — The Committee continued under appointment last year to correspond with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings on the concern of the Indians located West of the Mississippi, report, that we have corresponded with the Committees of New York, Baltimore and Indiana Yearly Meetings, but that way has not not opened to proceed in carrying into effect the concern of New York Yearly Meeting, as communicated to us and united with last year. An interesting document from this Meeting is herewith present. From the Committee of Indiana Yearly Meeting we have received a request to unite with them in their care over the Shawnee Tribe of Indians; but it does not appear to us that this would fully embrace the concern of this Meeting, which we understand to be to remove in some way that we may be able the more humbly West of the Mississippi, to aid those among the Tribes who may be disposed to receive instruction, and to improve their condition. We have not therefore extended any particular attention. — And we are united in judgement that it is desirable to send one or more suitably qualified individuals among them to ascertain more fully their situation and requirements; and would propose that our Yearly Meeting should unite with New York in an endeavour to effect this object, and that the money raised last year should be then appropriated, should it be required.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m: 18, 1840 — Samuel B. Boyd Tobey, Clerk

Document of New York Yearly Meeting, above refer'd to. —

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in New York, by adjournments from the 24th to the 29th of the 5th mo. inclusive, 1840

"The Committee on the concern of this Meeting in relation to the Indian Tribes West of the Mississippi, made the following report:

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends to be held in New York?

"The Committee on the Indian concern have, since last year, held a further correspondence with other Yearly Meetings in relation to the Indian Tribes located West of the Mississippi river, — and, now have to report, that, in consequence of exertions they are making to improve the condition of individuals of said Tribes under the care of their respective Meetings, they all declare unitedness with this Yearly Meeting in point of efforts to benefit the Tribes beyond the Mississippi — as contemplated

is a subject that was brought before Yearly Meetings in New England; which has raised five hundred Dollars in aid of that object. Yet and the sense of the Meeting of this Committee and the Meeting of Ministers and Elders which had several subscriptions on the subject. Under these circumstances, the Committee does not, after mature and serious deliberation, see the way clear to take any decisive step at present. They feel encouraged, nevertheless, to keep the interesting concern fully in view, in order to embrace the earliest favourable opportunity that may present, to move in it.

It is with feelings of deep regret the Committee has to add that notwithstanding the strong evidence of the illegal fraudulent manner in which it was obtained, and the earnest remonstrances of the Committee aided by the seasonal exertions of Friends of Philadelphia — the pretended treaty, by which the Seneca and other Indians in this State, ceded their lands to the Federal Government, has received the sanction of the Senate & President of the United States. It will hence be seen that there is too much room to fear that injustice and oppression, stimulated by the avarice and cupidity of artful men, will continue to pursue the Aboriginal inhabitants of this land, until the race is extinct.

Discouraging as this view of the subject may appear, & painful as the fact is, of arresting the progress of this unholy work; the Committee feel bound to continue their feeble efforts to protect the oppressed, that Friends may at least be clear of their blood, and leave the event to Him who judgeth in righteousness the nations of men who inhabit the earth.

Signed, Mahlon Day, Clerk
of the Committee."

New York 5th mo. 25th 1840.

"The Committee is continued to the service, to act in concert with Committees of other Yearly Meetings which may engage in the concern, and it is authorized to disburse the money raised for this object, agreeable to the purposes for which it was collected, and if, upon a favourable and satisfactory settlement of the principal contract of government of the Indians located West of the Mississippi — and the Committee on the Epistles was requested to communicate the present state of the concern in the Epistles to the several Yearly Meetings.

Extracted from the Minutes of said Meeting,
Samuel Parsons, Clerk."

The subject as thus presented claimed the renewed sympathy of Friends; and the time for which our Committee was appointed having expired, Rowland Green, John Wanton, Thomas Anthony and Elias Hicks were requested to introduce at our next sitting, the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Committee for further service in this concern.

On essay of an Epistle to our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of London, presented by the Committee on the Correspondence was read and approved — and the Meeting then adjourned to the 8th hour tomorrow morning.

1840

Sixth-day morning, the 19th.

Friends again assembled. Representatives present, as since the first sitting.

Rowland Evans, Thomas Anthony, John D. Lang, Samuel Boyd, Toby Smith, Enoch Bullen, Joseph Metcalf, Lindley M. Moore, Abraham Sharman, junr. Wm Jenkins, Edward Corlett, George Maryland, Samuel Boyce & John Maryland being proposed by the Friends named yesterday afternoon, were appointed a Committee on the concern of this Meeting relative to the Indians located West of the Mississippi — to correspond, as occasion may require, with similar Committees of the Yearly Meetings and were authorized to unite with the Committee of the New York Yearly Meeting, in employing, should way open for it, one or more suitable qualified persons to visit the Indians in their present locations, in order to ascertain more fully their situation and necessities, as proposed in the report already laid before us; and with liberty to obtain aid to this object, the money raised last year for the benefit of this concern, should it be required.

Copies of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of Ireland and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, were produced by the Committee of Correspondence, and being approved, were directed, together with that to the Yearly Meeting of London, read at our last sitting, to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and transmitted to those Meetings respectively.

Our feelings of sympathy with the surviving members of his yearly afflicted family, and with Friends generally in his native land, have been excited in our minds by the tidings borne to us, since we have been together on this occasion, of the removal by death of our beloved friend Daniel Wheeler; at his lodgings in the city of New York, on the night of the 19th inst. His company, exemplary deportment and labours of love have been a strengthening and encouraging to us, when last assembled in this capacity, as we were engaged at that time to unite on his behalf. — We deeply mourn the chastening hand in this afflictive dispensation, which has in unsearchable wisdom been permitted to befall it, by the removal of this our dear friend from works to rewards; but we do not mourn as those without hope; we feel an undoubted assurance, that he has become an inhabitant of those blessed abodes where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor pain; and we trust that his example of faithful and humble waiting, his devotion to the cause of Truth, and the good of his fellow men, together with the remembrance of his peaceful close, may long continue to have an influence in stimulating others to follow him, as he was enabled, in the obedience of faith, to follow Christ.

And the Clerk was directed to forward a copy of the above minute, to

1840. the Epistle now about to be forwarded to our friends of the Yearly Meeting of London.

"We feel ourselves authorized to make our necessary retrospect from our minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

"Having been favoured during the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting, to see cause humbly thankfully to acknowledge in good measure the overshadowing of the wing of ancient goodness, under which we have been preserved in much love and unity in conducting the important concerns that have claimed our attention, we now conclude, purposing to meet you at this place, at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

"Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Rhode Island, from the 11th to the 19th, inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1840.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

You have been again at this time afresh brought to our remembrance, and a renewed feeling of encouragement has been witnessed by us in the reflection that we are one with our brethren wheresoever situated, members of the same Church, engaged for the maintenance of the same faith, and in the service of the same Master, even Christ, who hath called us out of the spirit of the world, its customs and maxims, to be a separate people unto his praise. And while we have been humbled under a sense of our high and holy calling, and of our own weakness and unfaithfulness, living desires have been raised that we might be renewedly concerned in singleness of purpose, and with that help which our gracious God may condescend to grant us, to come up in increased dedication in his service. Our forefathers in that faith were called out of the formalities of their day, unto that simplicity of faith and purity of life which are consistent with the precepts and example of our Lord, and with the still unbiassed teachings of the Holy Spirit upon the heart. For the sake of a living conscience in the sight of God and in the support of this faith, they suffered persecution in some instances unto death, and we doubt not received the reward of the righteous. And we believe it were well for us of the present day who are favoured with little impediment to enjoy religious liberty, and to serve our heavenly Father in the way which we believe he requires of us, often to advert to

1840. the example of our predecessors and to the faith and testimonies which they were engaged to maintain. Among their distinguishing principles stood prominently this belief in the indispensible teaching and the power of that anointing which our Lord declared to his disciples should teach them all things, and without which they felt their inability to perform any religious service. They were therefore concerned often to wait upon the Lord, in a sense of humble watchfulness and prayer, seeking to know his will. Nor was this concern confined to seasons set apart professedly to worship Him; but, as they testify, often in the fields and in the woods; in the street, and while engaged in their various occasions among men, were their hearts lifted up to Him, and He condescended graciously to reveal himself unto them, to open their understandings, and to teach them of his ways. — It was thus that they became qualified to act in his service and to advance his holy cause: and we believe you will fully concur with us in the sentiment that it is only as we come to know a degree of the same qualification that we can be prepared to carry forward the work of truth and righteousness in the earth.

We notice with interest in your acceptable epistle of last year your continued concern on the subject of slavery as it exists in our country. This is a subject which early engaged the religious attention of the members of our Yearly Meeting, and continues to rest with weight upon our minds. The sin and cruelty of slavery, and the enormities of the slave trade, are calculated to arouse the sensitive feelings of the heart, and to awaken us to the solemn inquiry as to what the Lord calls for at our hands, and what part he designs for us to perform in removing this great evil from our land; — a work the more difficult to be effected in consequence of the rights guaranteed to the individual States by the constitution of our country. But we are led to believe, that as this concern is abode under, we shall be favoured from time to time to perceive the right way for us to move, and that in the Lord's own time we may be permitted to witness the end attained which we so ardently desire. Our testimony against slavery has always been maintained by us as a religious testimony, and we believe in order for its support and successful advancement, we must know a qualification from Him who alone can enable us rightly to discharge any of our religious duties. — We do not place our concern for the slave on the ground simply of benevolence or philanthropy. In order for this peaceful release the minds of those who now control them must be touched and softened, and this is a work in which we can only be instrumental through the qualifying power of Him who can subdue the heart and bring into subjection the fierce will. And we believe it right for us, dear friends, to state to you in brotherly freedom, that we have been constrained from an apprehension of religious duty, to discourage our members from an indiscriminate union with the secular societies of the day, which are professedly engaged for the promotion of the anti-slavery cause? —

1840 We were quite led to apprehend, that in meetings where, in the general, there are formal observances out of which the Society of Friends have felt themselves called upon to bear, instead of that quiet waiting before the Lord to hear his still, small voice, and to fix [illegible] will, the mouths to be opened or determined by majorities, [illegible] after varied discussions where those who deny all, yet feel the necessity of immediate, divine ordination for the discharge of duty, [illegible] an equal voice with those who admit it, - not more would be in danger of compromising our testimonies, & gradually losing their strength and attachment to our Society, and it becomes a neglect in the performance of pressing and solemn duties. - And we may add, that what was thus apprehended by those who have stood as watchmen upon our walls, has already been sorrowfully realized, as it evidently some of our members, who have entered into these associations, and who have little by little lost their attachment to our Society, have thrown off the salutary restraints of the Discipline, and in various respects have become identified with the world. And we have been led seriously to believe, that by such connections, instead of promoting the welfare of those now held in bondage, we shall render ourselves less able, effectively, to move us a body in that path in which we have hitherto found safety.

While we have no desire to prescribe to others the course they shall pursue, and would rejoice in any of their efforts that might be productive of good, we believe we have clearly seen that it is our place to keep together as a religious body, and to move in that light which we humbly sought we have with, not to withhold, and which they only know who are willing in simplicity to serve the Lord, whether he requires little or much at their hands. And we trust, dear Brethren, that you and all faithful Friends every where who love the Truth, will unite with us in our concern for the preservation of the principles and testimonies of our religious Society.

With fervent desires that the Lord in his great mercy may be pleased still to keep us, and enable us to bring Gods Church to his praise, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

[Also forwarded, by way of postscript, in the transcript of the above Epistle, forwarded to London, the tribute to the memory of our dear departed friend Daniel Wheeler, as inserted on our minutes under date of 19th [8m.o]

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Under a humbling sense of the continued mercy of the Great Head of the Church, we again address you, acknowledging with gratitude that notwithstanding our unworthiness he has been pleased at this time to give us an evidence of his life-giving presence, and to overshadow us with his Love.

1840. Your acceptable Epistle of last year was received and read together with Epistolary communications from other Yearly Meetings, confirming us in the belief that we are yet one body, striving together to build upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself, being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building fitly framed together, groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord.

This was the foundation on which our worthy Ancestors were concerned to build. Deeply sensible of their fallen and degenerate condition by nature, and of their entire inability to do any thing of themselves, whereby they could be reinstated into Divine favour, they embraced with thankfulness the means provided in infinite mercy for their redemption. They owned and believed in Jesus Christ, that he was made a sacrifice for sin, who knew no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth, that he was crucified for us in the flesh without the gate of persecution, that he was buried and rose again the third day by the power of the Father for our justification, and that he ascended up into Heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of God, our intercessor with Him. This Jesus who was the foundation of the Prophets and Apostles, was their foundation, and they believed that there is no other foundation to be laid, than that which is laid, even Jesus who tasted death for every man, shed his blood for all men, is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. They believed all that is recorded in the Holy Scriptures respecting his coming and sufferings, and by receiving in humble faith the powerful case of his death, the grace of God revealed in their hearts, they became instrumental in reviving and promulgating the principles of the Gospel in their primitive purity, unsullied by the contrivance of man.

And, beloved Friends, may we in the present day be more fervently engaged to build upon the same foundation, and in singleness of heart walk by the same rule and mind the same thing. Let us endeavour to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; and be not double minded, for we read that he is faithful that hath promised.

May we ever remember, that it is not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saveth us by the washing of regeneration & the renewing of the Holy Ghost. And in that faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, may we be found bearing our daily cross before the world, despising the shame, & watching in that true humility which becometh the followers of a crucified Saviour. That this to become individually the case, we believe that the various testimonies given us as a Society to bear would become increasingly precious, and the deficiencies that now exist in relation to their maintenance would be removed from our borders, and we should become as a city set on a hill, that cannot be hid.

With the salutation of Love, We remain your Friends and Brethren, Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by Abraham Shearman, jun Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

"In the reading of the letter from our brethren of the Synod there is nothing in any way inconsistent with us, we minds have been indicated into a feeling that all our dear friends, with ourselves, may experience preparation under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, that we may be favoured in a quiet teachable frame of mind, and know the influences of that wisdom which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits. And thus become the qualified instruments in building one another up in the most holy faith — watching over each other for good.

"We cordially reciprocate the sentiment in your Epistle, — that it is only as we abide in Him who is the true and living Vine, the never failing source of life and strength, that the love and lasting unity can be felt and maintained among us. — And we are not left without a sure test by our Divine Master, whether we are or are not abiding in this true and living Vine; for he has declared, 'By their fruits ye shall know them.' — and 'the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; — against such there is no law.'

"If our feelings toward our brethren are such that we can prefer one another in love; — if there be no strife which shall be the greatest; — if our faith is unwavering; if Christian charity abounds; — if love to God and love to man predominate in our hearts, and Gospel fellowship with our brethren wherever visited is cherished. — Then indeed are we truly 'in the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace.'

"We must all acknowledge, that 'it is no man's eloquence, talents or persuasive charm, that can qualify him unerringly to advocate the cause of Truth.' But that in the language of one of our ancient worthies — 'all his endowments must be crowned with the heavenly dart, and his mind dedicated and his gifts turned through the fire of God's altar, a sacrifice to His service and honour. — That so self may be crucified and baptized into death; and the gifts made use of in the power of the resurrection of the life of Jesus in him. When this great work is wrought in a man, then all his gifts and qualifications are sanctified and made use of for the good of the body which is the church, and are ornaments and jewels, which serve for the joy and comfort of all who are partakers of the same Divine fellowship of life in Christ Jesus our Lord.' If but the one of the five talents is bestowed, the same anointing is an indispensable qualification, availing to advocate the cause of Truth. Shining examples of diversified qualifications and gifts have ever manifested themselves in our religious society down to the present time. And may the number of these qualified instruments be increased both with now and us; — Bearing in remembrance for our encouragement, the descriptive language of the Prophet, 'How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings,

1840 that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation."

The Meeting has been renewedly united in sympathy with the suffering Aborigines of our country, and we have so far united with our brethren of New York Yearly Meeting as to encourage the sending qualified persons to investigate into the situation of that large portion of them residing beyond the Mississippi, which have not been under the care of Friends, if way should open for it. We have at this time received encouraging accounts of the Tuscarora tribe within our borders, and the minds of Friends have also become interested on behalf of the Passamaquaddy tribe, also within our limits.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

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To New York.

Dear Friends,

In coming together at this time of our annual Assembly, we have been comforted in the belief, that however tried as a people we may be, we are not yet forsaken. — Although the seasons may be felt, by the rightly exercised among us, to be a day of suffering, a day in which Satan hath desired to have us that he might sift us as wheat; yet we trust, through the intercession of the same merciful Saviour and High Priest, that said unto Peter, I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not, there are those preserved amongst us, who are concerned for the honour of Truth, and for the preservation of our Society on its ancient foundation. It was the work and service of our early Friends, in an eminent degree, to call the people from a dependance on man, unto the immediate teaching of Jesus Christ himself, by his Holy Spirit; — from the mere profession of Godliness, to the power; — and we believe there is the same necessity in the present day for us to be gathered unto the same all-sufficient Teacher.

The consideration of the removal from works to rewards of some of our dear fellow labourers in the Vineyard of Christ, since our last annual assembly, has been humbling to our minds; and a desire has been felt, that through an increased dedication of heart in the younger members of our Society, as well as in those further advanced, a succession of standard bearers may be raised up, qualified to fill the places of these, who having fought the good fight, and kept the faith, have finished their course with joy, and have doubtless obtained the crown which is laid up for all those who love the appearing of the Lord Jesus.

The subject of Slavery still continues to claim our attention; and we feel desirous that Friends may be preserved in a patient waiting upon Him, who, in his own time will, if he sees meet to make use of us

1830. as instruments in this cause; enable us to move forward unitedly in the work, with that success which will eventually attend the labours of those who move only under the guidance of that wisdom which is profitable to direct.

An increasing interest has been manifested in this meeting, in the welfare of the tribe of Indians that have long been assisted by us. It appears by the report of the Committee, that they are steadily increasing in number, and their condition improving in the comforts of civilized life.

Our Epistle of last month was received, and together with Epistles from our friends in London and Ireland, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, were read to satisfaction.

With the salutation of love, we are your friends,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

We have again been permitted to meet in our Annual Assembly, and to transact the various concerns that have been brought before us, in much unanimity and brotherly love. And we desire humbly and thankfully to acknowledge, that we believe that our great and gracious Master has been pleased mercifully to regard us at the present time, and to Him praise be it spoken. He has awed, in good degree into silence, our creaturely wills, and broken down and contrited many hearts in this assembly, so that we have been concerned to exalt his praise his name. We have received Epistles from London and Ireland, and likewise from each of the Yearly Meetings on the Continent, which have been read in our Meeting; and we believe that this Epistolary correspondence has a tendency to keep alive that brotherly and Christian fellowship, which has been from the first rise of our Society to the present day, one of its distinguishing characteristics, and we believe too, that this fellowship stands not in any outward formality, as prescribed rules, but in Him, even Christ, who is Head over all things unto his Church, and who has promised to be with his dependent and obedient always, even unto the end of the world.

On reviewing the state of Society within our borders, we are united by reason the increase in the Province, the Meeting was indeed well into a lively exercise on account of the deficiencies that still exist amongst us: And Friends were tenderly exhorted to come away from all those hurtful and hindering things, and in lowliness of mind before the Lord, to pray him in his never failing mercy, to cause his name to be feared, to be magnified, and praised amongst us. Our youth, of whom there is a large number now in attendance with us, were mercifully cared for by our Heavenly Father, and much salutary and wholesome counsel was held out to them, and

1840 the enamoured sight to appreciate the privileges they now enjoy, for which our forefathers in the Truth so deeply suffered as they were concerned faithfully to follow their Holy Leader.

And dear brethren, in the feelings of Gospel love, do we address you, and notwithstanding there are many things that seem to obstruct the Church in its progress towards that City, where the enemy of man's happiness can never enter: Yet we believe there is encouragement for those who, prefer Jerusalem in their chiefest joy. And, notwithstanding the desolations has been suffered to sweep over your land, and like a destroying sword, to lay waste many of your thousand places, and to cause your walls to be broken down and the name of our God to be evilly spoken of; yet we believe that the Lord has still a chosen people amongst you, who are concerned for his Truth: and as we are individually engaged in all our walks amongst men, to keep our garments unspotted from the world, and in lowliness of mind, to commend our petitions before the Lord. He will have regard unto the workmanship of his holy hand, will stay the power of the destroyer, and in his own time, he will enlarge our borders and repair the waste places of Zion: He will lengthen her cheords and strengthen her stakes, & the Cities, whose inhabitants have been carried away captive, will be again inhabited, and Jerusalem will become the delight of many sons and daughters, and the songs of Zion will again be sung in the land of Judah and Jerusalem.

We are glad to perceive that you are actively engaged for the amelioration of the condition of the Aborigines of our country, and hope you will be encouraged to persevere in this Christian concern: and we are glad too, to see that the descendants of the African race both bond and free, still continue to claim your commiseration & sympathy, and that you are engaged to embrace every right opening to promote their good.

The Penobscot Tribe of Indians still continue to claim our attention, and it has been a satisfaction to learn that they are in a gradually improving condition, and that the labours of Friends have been blessed to them.

In the bonds of Gospel love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends.

We have at this time received your acceptable Epistle of last month, together with similar letters of Christian fellowship from all the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America; also from those of London and Ireland, which have been read to our comfort and satisfaction. By which we have been renewedly brought to feel that however

1840 widely separated, we continue to be one humble. As it becomes the primary engagement of our minds to be led and guided by the unerring Spirit of Truth, which unites the living members of the body together in the fellowship of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, agreeably to the apostolic declaration. "If we walk in the Light, as He is in the Light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Let us, dear Friends, have the eye of our minds singly directed to Him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life; so shall we be preserved on the sure foundation which is laid in Zion, against which the combined powers of darkness will not be able to prevail.

This Yearly Meeting has been largely attended, and, reasonably favoured with the overshadowing Wing of Ancient Goodness, Love & Mercy, whereby we have been favoured to transact the business before it in much harmony and condescension. We still have to lament the deficiencies which were again brought into view by the reading of the answers to the Queries. Pertinent remarks were made, and much suitable advice and counsel was given, by concerned Friends. May these, their labours of love, prove (at least) as bread cast upon the waters that will be found after many days — an incitement to an increase of concern for the support of those precious testimonies that our predecessors in the Truth were enabled, through many trials and sufferings to maintain. May we be found walking in their footsteps, following them as they faithfully followed Christ, our Holy Head and High Priest, experiencing Him to be unto us Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification and Redemption.

It affords us satisfaction to find that you are still continuing your efforts on behalf of the oppressed descendants of the African race within your borders, notwithstanding the obstructions that are thrown in your way; in which good work you have our sympathy and prayers for the success of your endeavours for their deliverance from cruel bondage, and their elevation to the inalienable rights of man.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends & Brethren,
Signed in direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk

To South Carolina

Dear Friends,

Having been permitted at this time to assemble as a Yearly Meeting, we have through unmerited mercy, been made sensible of the overshadowing goodness of the Great Head of the Church under the influence of which, the weighty concerns that have claimed our deliberation have been transacted in much harmony and condescension. Epistles have been received from the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, together with one from each of the Yearly Meetings upon this Continent.

1810. These evidences of Christian fellowship and sympathy have afforded a fresh and grateful assurance to our minds that however widely soever we may be scattered, and how diversified soever our outward circumstances, we are truly one people, one in Faith, one in practice, and one in the fellowship of the Gospel.

And, dear Friends, as we embrace the Truth in the love of it, we shall more and more realize the unity of the Spirit to be the bond of peace; that peace which passeth understanding, and which is as the dew of Heaven, and as the dew which descended upon the mountains of Zion, reviving and invigorating the weary traveller. As our hearts are fixed supremely upon God, the Creator of all things, the one eternal Father; and as we rely upon Jesus Christ, his dearly beloved Son, the Saviour of the world, and have faith in and obey the pure guidance & government of the Holy Spirit, we shall grow up into Him who is the Head, a perfect body, wanting nothing. We have desired for it of us, may hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; that He who has begun a good work in us, will if, we are faithful carry it on to a glorious consummation. remembering

We keep our Lives in the body which the great Master of Assemblies has assigned and may adorn us, the good precious testimonies which have been given us to bear with, in their beauty and completeness be upheld, and we shall become as lights in the world and a city set on a hill. We believe that our predecessors in religious profession were, in an eminent degree favoured to see and mercifully enabled to support the simplicity of the Gospel dispensation. They esteemed no sacrifice too great to be made in the discharge of their religious duties. In the discharge of these duties contumely and suffering, were in a remarkable degree their portion: but as good soldiers of the Cross, they suffered patiently and fought valiantly for the Truth; and, having finished their course, have, we doubt not received a gladdening crown of glory. May we imitate their example; ——— may we walk by the same rule, and mind the same things. Then we believe will Zion put on her beautiful garments, and increasingly become the praise of the whole earth!

The condition of the descendants of the African race, who are subjected to the injustice and cruelties of Slavery in our country, continues to claim the sympathy and commiseration of this Meeting; and we have desired that all our members may be preserved in such a state of watchfulness and Christian tenderness, that whenever a right opening presents, we may continue to labour for the amelioration of their afflictions, and for their complete emancipation. We are not unmindful, dear Friends, of the trying circumstances in which you are frequently placed by your location in that part of the country in which this unrighteous institution is sanctioned by law; but we hope you will not be discouraged by the obstacles that impede your progress in this work of Christian benevolence & mercy:

1840. for. He who seeks it in a prayerful, simple faith upon Him, will abundantly furnish you with ability to perform whatever service He may require at your hands, in their behalf.

We are glad to learn that the usefulness of your Yearly Meeting School is beginning to be perceived throughout your Yearly Meeting. The guarded education of the youth at our Society is a subject in which we should indeed feel deeply interested, and in the promotion of which we should be very diligent. The right education of our Children may run much influence the future growth & prosperity of the body. That declaration of the wise King is fraught with deep instruction to us all: Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. A very important part of this system of training must, we believe to be performed in the family circle. The domestic fireside is the school in which the tender mind should and will receive many enduring impressions.

The Cherokee Tribe of Indians over which this Meeting has for several years exercised a care is, as appears by the report of the Committee having charge of that subject, gradually advancing in the arts of civilized life.

With feelings of Brotherly love, we remain Your Friends, Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by,

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Our Meeting at this time has been large and interesting. We have been given to believe that our coming together has been owned by the great Head of the Church, and that, notwithstanding our many weaknesses and short-comings, he still regardeth us as a people. Under a sense of this unmerited favour, the hearts of a remnant have gratefully bowed before the Lord. We have been enabled to transact the various weighty concerns that have come before us in harmony and brotherly condescension.

There are in attendance at this time a large number of our young men; many of whom by their countenances and orderly deportment evince that the Shepherd of Israel is preparing them for usefulness in His militant church; and it is our earnest desire that this interesting portion of our Society, every where, may so abide under his supervising hand as to be willing to become fools for Christ's sake, that a declaration of standard bearers may be raised up to advocate the cause of our Holy Redeemer, and the testimonies of our Society.

Your Epistle of 9th month last, with similar testimonials of brotherly regard from the other Yearly Meetings of Friends, have been received at this time. We hearing the pertinent and instructive remarks which they contain, we were renewedly impressed with a belief that such epistolary correspondence is productive of benefit to us as a Society; - that

1840. however remotely situated, this rightly exercised amongst us may be; or however diversified their conditions in life, they all speak one language, and are concerned to walk by the same rule, and to mind the same thing.

We were glad to learn that you continue to feel a deep interest in the welfare of the aborigines of this country, as also in that of the descendants of the African race. We cordially subscribe to the sentiment, "That Friends should earnestly seek for Divine direction in the discharge of their duties towards this much injured people, and that it is under this direction alone, that we can availingly labour for their enlargement." It is encouraging to reflect that whilst Friends have kept to the original ground of religious duty in their movements, their labours have been signally blest to their fellow men of every class.

The report of our Committee to visit the Tribes of Indians, resident in the State of Maine, was interesting to us, and we were encouraged in the belief that the care that has already been extended to them by Friends had had its usefulness. They appear to be making a slow, but gradual advance towards civilization.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

You are again brought afresh to our remembrance in this our annual assembly; having received and read your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last. We are renewedly sensible that these Epistolary communications from our absent brethren of the same faith are instrumental in more closely uniting us together in that brotherly love which our divine Master declared to be the badge of true discipleship, and our desire is that this love may continue. In looking towards this our annual assembly, many minds were clothed with fearfulness, in which we were ready to adopt the language of the Apostle: "and now I go bound in the Spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befal me there, save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth, that bonds and afflictions abide me;"—but in our coming together, we have thankfully to acknowledge, that the Wing of Ancient Goodness has been spread over us, which, heretofore has been the preservation of our solemn assemblies, under the precious covering of which, we have been enabled to transact the important concerns of the Church in brotherly love;—for which we feel bound to thank God and take courage with desires that we may put our whole trust in the Lord our Saviour, who declared himself to be the good Shepherd of his sheep; and

1840. when he putteth forth his own he goeth before them, and they know his voice and follow him, but a stranger they will not follow.

And we feel renewedly concerned for ourselves and our brethren every where, that we may more and more become acquainted with the still small voice in our own hearts, which will teach us to detect the voice of the stranger, who as ever is actively & subtilly working in our Society to draw aside from the precious Truth in divers ways and it is our earnest solicitude that we may be aroused to that holy injunction of our blessed Lord, "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation." Let us then, brethren, often retire into the closet of the heart and watch over our spirits, and earnestly pray to the Lord for preservation, that we may not offend in word nor deed but live in peace, that the God of peace may be with us.

We were interested in the feeling manifested in your Epistle in regard to our religious testimony in relation to plainness of dress and language with a hope that your labours will not be in vain. And also that a guarded religious and literary education for the beloved youth continued to claim your serious attention, in which we desire your encouragement. Your unabated care towards the Aborigines of your Land is interesting and comforting to our minds, and we hope you will be strengthened to continue your labours of love to this interesting and much injured people.

We have received encouraging accounts of the advancement of civilization among the Cherokee tribe of Indians. For whom we have long felt a deep interest, and extended some care; and have at this time had our attention turned towards a tribe not heretofore under our immediate notice, which will embrace most of that class of people within our limits; and we have also appointed a Committee to co-operate with similar Committees in obtaining information in relation to those located West of the Mississippi.

We also continue to feel a deep interest in the welfare of the oppressed African race, and can respond to the sentiment contained in your Epistle, "That we embrace every right opening to appear on their behalf." And while we do not wish to impede in the least degree the honest endeavours of others in promoting this very desirable object, yet we cannot refrain from tenderly intreating our dear brethren every where, to keep together, and maintain this on the same ground as we do all other religious testimonies, looking unto the Lord for help and direction, and waiting for his putting forth, that we may labour successfully in this righteous cause.

With the salutation of love, we are Yours &c.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk.

1841. At an Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth on First Day the 13th, and at Newport for Discipline,

On 2d day morning the 14th of Sep: 1841.

We are informed by the accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings that the Friends appointed to attend as Representatives to this Meeting, are,

For Rhode Island. Judson Nichols, John Allen, Richard Greene, Nicholas Brown, John A. Nichols, Wm. Jenkins, Edward Aldrich, David Buffum, David Sisson, Thomas Anthony, William Reynolds, John Wanton, Timothy M. Collins.

For Salem. Enoch Bond, Peter Frothingham, B. Lee Brown, Enoch Page, David Low, Samuel Boyce.

For Sandwich, James Tucker, Francis Jones, Mathias Gifford, Prince Gardner, Jesse Kelley, Seth Davis, Isaac Sawyer, John Macomber.

For Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Nathan Pope, Elisha Jones, Stephen Lewis, John Buffum, Reuben Horton, David Winslow.

For Smithfield, Walter Dunn, David Scattergood, Moses Varnum, John Milton Earle, James M. Fry.

For Wrightsborough, William Parr, Cyrus Pierce, Edmund Whitehouse, Moses Hawkins, Stephen Jones jun. Ephraim E. Owen, Jesse Lewis, John D. Lang, Benjamin Fry, Nevins Wanton, Timothy Hanson.

whose names being called; they were all present but two; — for the absence of one of whom a satisfactory reason was assigned. [The other Friend, absent when the names were called, soon after came in, and took his seat.]

We have at this time the company of our esteemed friends Jeremiah Hubbard of Whitewater Monthly Meeting, Indiana; Joseph Brown of Bottetourt and Jane Carpenter of Bridgewater Mo. Meeting, State of New York; Richard H. Thomas, of Baltimore, Maryland, and Anne Batty, of Starkborough Mo. Meeting, Vermont. Who produced satisfactory certificates of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry, and present religious engagements.

We have also the company of our friends William Kenworthy, of Whitewater Monthly Meeting, Indiana, companion to our friend Jeremiah Hubbard; Eli Haines, an Elder, of Redstone Mo. Meeting; Pennsylvania, who accompanies his Wife, Ruth C. Haines, and Joseph Snowden, of Philadelphia, who accompanies our friends Elizabeth Pettigrew and Susan Willman, now in attendance of this Meeting — who produced satisfactory minutes from their respective Meetings.

The London General Epistle of the past year was received and read, and the sound Christian views in regard to some of the distinguishing features of our

1841. Christian
profession, and the salutary counsel and advice, in regard
to the conduct and conduct of life, so affectionately urged
upon our attention, was encouraging & strengthening to us.

Two Epistles addressed to this Meeting from
our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London & Ireland,
and one from each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on the
Continent, were also received and read.

And our Friends Thomas Anthony, Samuel Boyd
Peleg Tobey, John Osborne, Rowland Evans, Samuel Boyce,
Caleb Jones, Samuel Taylor jun. Isaac Mitchell, Timothy
C. Collins, Moses H. Beede, Francis Tabor, Wm Jenkins,
Arnold Hazard, Joseph Davis, John D. Lange, John Wilson
Edwards John Warren, Jonathan J. Slocum, Henry Cook
Pliny Gardner, Thomas H. Read, Joseph Metcalf, John
Meader, Thomas W. Barker, Thomas Jones, & Jam[illegible] Austin,
were directed, as way may open for it, to prepare essays of
communications to their Meetings respectively, and pre-
sent them at a future sitting of sittings.

We are informed that one of our Quarterly Meetings
has paid, and that all the others have directed the pay-
ment to our Treasurer of their respective proportions of
Work, as requested last year.

William Rowntree, Jonathan Beede, John Howland,
Caleb Jones, John Osborne, Caleb Nichols, and Wm Hill
were appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers accounts;
also to consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the ser-
vice of the present year, and to propose a Treasurer.

By the accounts received from the Quarterly Meetings
we are informed, That Rhode Island has united with
Rhode Island Mo Meeting in the appointment of Susanna
Buffum and Edward Wing to the station of Elders,
and with Providence Mo Meeting in approving the public
ministry of Samuel B. Tobey. That Falmouth has
united with Windham Mo Meeting in approving the public
ministry of Lydia Allen, and with Durham Mo Meeting
in the appointment of Maria Jones to the station of an
Elder. That Easttown has united with Falmouth
Mo Meeting in approving the public ministry of George
Nicholson, and with Litchfield Mo Meeting in the ap-
pointment of Charlotte Mingate to the station of an Elder.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met pursuant to adjournm.
John Meader, on behalf of the Representatives informed
the Meeting, that they had conferred together, and were
united in proposing Abraham Seaman, jun for Clerk,
and Samuel Boyd Tobey for Assistant Clerk, for the
year ensuing, which was satisfactory to the Meeting, and they
were appointed to those services accordingly.

The minutes of our last Yearly Meeting were then
read.

1841

We are informed by Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting, that since they proposed for our consideration, a division of that Quarterly Meeting, they have established another Monthly Meeting within those limits, by the name of St. Albans; and that they were now united in proposing that this Monthly Meeting should be set off, with those of Sidney and Litchfield (formerly Leeds,) to constitute the proposed new Quarterly Meeting — which was referred to the Committee now under appointment on the division of Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting.

We are informed by Falmouth and Vassalboro Quarterly Meetings, "That having found it expedient to revise the dividing line between those Meetings, they had united with the report of the Committees appointed by them respectively, for that purpose, and by which said line is now established as follows:— "Commencing at the mouth of Kennebeck River; thence up said River on the Easterly side of Swan Island to the head of said Island; thence Westerly on the line between Bowdoinham and Richmond to Bowdoin; thence between Bowdoin and Richmond to the line between Bowdoin and Litchfield; thence on said line to the line between Webster and Wales; thence on said line to Green; then between Webster and Green to the line between Green and Lewiston; then between Green and Lewiston to the Androscoggin River; then on the line between Minot and Turner to Hebron; then between Turner & Hebron, to Buckfield; thence between Hebron and Buckfield to Paris; then between Paris and Buckfield to Sumner; thence between Sumner and Paris to Woodstock; then between Woodstock and Sumner to No 2; thence between No 2 and Woodstock to Bethel; thence on the Easterly line of Bethel to the Androscoggin River, thence on the Westerly branch of said River to the New Hampshire line." [See reports, made to the two Quarterly Mtgs — on file, with the papers of the present year.]

Which is satisfactory to this Meeting, and the Representatives from those Quarterly Meetings were desired to take it in charge to communicate this information to said Meetings respectively.

The following minute being received from Salem Quarterly Meeting, held on the 2nd of last month, viz.

"In the importance of maintaining a faithful testimony against Slavery and the Slave Trade, claiming the attention of this Meeting; after a time of consideration thereon, it was concluded to suggest to our next Yearly Meeting, the expediency of its taking some further measures should it think advisable, relative to the circulation of information respecting this iniquitous system." — John D. Ring, George Howland, John Meader, John Warren, Prince Gardner, Stephen Jones, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Howland, Nathan

1841. Pope, John Hilles, John Osborne, Arnold Congdon, Joseph C. Hutcraft, Stephen Jones, William Jenkins, Thos. Graves and Samuel Taylor, jun. were named to take the subject matter thereof into consideration, and report their judgment as to the right disposition of it, at a future Meeting.

An Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, last year, addressed to the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America, in relation to the subject of Slavery, was read; and claimed the solid consideration of the Meeting, and was referred for further consideration, to the above-named Committee, to report their views thereon, at a future sitting.

A collection of Facts and Observations relative to the participation of American Citizens in the African Slave Trade; forwarded to us by the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, was also referred to the same Committee.

The Annual Report of the Committee having the superintendence of the Boarding School under the care of this Meeting, was produced and read, and being satisfactory to Friends the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings; and Friends were desired to give their attention to the suggestions of the Committee in regard to the admission of Scholars.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to superintend the various concerns of the Boarding School, Report, That they have endeavoured during the past year, to attend to the important trust confided to them by the Yearly Meeting. The average number of scholars in the Institution has been eighty five. Meetings for religious worship have been regularly held on the house, except during the vacations; and harmony, we believe, has prevailed. Our friends Allen & Olive Wing continue to occupy the place of Superintendents, acceptably to us. Samuel Austin and Joseph W. Aldrich are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Emmeline Aldrich and Rebecca Chipman in the Girls'. George F. Read continues to have charge of the Books, and to instruct in the Languages. Wing E. Chase has been employed as a Teacher during the past year, and Charles H. Nichols, Elizabeth H. Osborne and Lydia Earle, each one term.

The Treasurers and Superintendents accounts have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded its expenditures by $10.66 31/100, and that there is now a balance in the Treasury of $220.13 13/100 Twenty two hundred and twenty dollars & 13/ cts have been expended in various repairs on the buildings & furniture for house; — and as many additional repairs & improvements are required about the house and farm, we do not consider it expedient to propose any change in the price of admission from that of last year, viz. $30 per term for members of the Yearly Meeting; $45. for those who are not members, and of both of whose parents are members; and $50 for members

1874. of our Society of the Yearly Meetings. Books and stationary to continue to be furnished, as at present. We forward with Journal a copy of the Superintendents acc.t for the information of the M.M.

While the Committee believe that manifest advantage has resulted from the division of the year into terms, they are sensible it has not been so fully realized as is desirable, from the circumstance that many Scholars have entered for a less time than one term, and at different periods in it. While we are aware there may be cases in which parents may desire to place their children in the School for only three months, and we would not wish to deny this privilege when circumstances seem to forbid their remaining thro' a whole term, yet we hope these applications will not be frequent; and we believe that the good of all requires that in future, in such cases, the Scholars shall enter either at the commencement or the middle of the term.

Inconvenience has sometimes arisen from a neglect of the observance of the regulation adopted by the M. M. at the establishment of the School, that for all males over 14 years of age, the consent of the Sub Committee to their entrance must be obtained previously to their coming to the School, and for the future we would propose that this rule should be strictly adhered to. It will be remembered that the sub Committee meets at the Institution on third day before the first & fifth day in every month.

Ten Scholars have enjoyed the benefit of the charitable fund during the past term; and the same number may receive the privilege the ensuing Winter session; and M.s M.g are requested to forward their applications at or before the time of the meeting of the Sub-Committee on the 5th of the 10th month.

An examination of the School has taken place at the close of each term, in the presence of Special Committees appointed for that purpose, and their reports of the proficiency of the pupils and the general condition of the School, have been satisfactory to us. In the one presented at this time, after referring to the satisfaction derived from their visit, the Committee proceed to state, that "the correctness of the recitations of the children, and the readiness and knowledge manifested in the various studies to which they have given their attention, evinced a commendable degree of industry and application on the part of the Scholars, and of care and diligence on that of the Teachers; and the general appearance of the Schools and the orderly deportment of the pupils while we were with them, received our approbation." We can but regret that the number of Scholars is not larger than it has been for the past few years, believing as we do, that an opportunity is afforded in this Institution to obtain a useful education, in good measure guarded from the contaminating influences of the world, & we would desire that Friends might be encouraged to avail themselves of its benefits.

In conclusion we may state that the Family & Scholars have been favoured with almost uninterrupted good health during the past year; which, with the many other mercies graciously extended to us by Him who condescends still to care for us, calls for the tribute of grateful hearts.

Jon. Evans Jr. Clerk of the Committee
Boarding School, 11th mo. 1874.

Received Boarding School Committee

1841- Dr Yearly Meeting Boarding School in account with Allen Wing Superintendent Cr.
4th mo 8 To amount of expenditures since 4th mo 8th 1840 viz.

Salaries		$2414.66
Books and Stationary		266.77
Labor		1268.67
Repairs and furniture		2220.17
Fuel viz. wood 455 – anthracite Coal 256.10 Charcoal 99.24		810.34
Flour 718.62 – Butter 451.22		1169.84
Cheese 69.08 – Meat 472.07		541.15
Fish 38.51 – Hay, grain &c 321.14		359.65
Bread 268.21 – Sugar 223.54		491.75
Molasses 176.08 – Tea 38.62 Coffee 38.37 =		253.07
Lamp oil 183.36 – Vegetables 73.73		257.09
Rice 31.57 – Medicines 34.67 –		66.24
Soap and Soda 60.54 – Post Office 69.48 –		130.02
Articles for scholars		738.07
Money refunded and due scholars		200.77
Incidentals	100.82	$11.289.08
Balance to new account –		390.30
		$11.679.38

1840
4th mo 8th By balance on settlement — $195–
1841
4th mo 8 – " Amt received from the Treasurer 4715.–
" Board and tuition of scholars and advanced to them — 6500.85
" Amt received for articles sold 252.88
" do from visiters — 15.65

$11.679.38

1841
4th mo 8 Cash on hand — — $390.30–

Providence 4th mo 8th 1841
Errors Excepted
(Signed) Allen Wing Superintendent —

1
4

1841.

The account of the Superintendent referred to in the above report was also read.

The Friends now under appointment on the part of this Meeting, as a Committee for the Government and Superintendence of the Boarding School, were continued, (with the exception of our late friends Seth Pilley and Charles Shaw, deceased, and John Brown removed out of the limits of the Yearly Meeting,) for the ensuing year, & till another appointment, to act therein in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting, and were desired to report next year. Samuel Boyce, Wm Jenkins, Edward Wing, Thomas Anthony, John D. Lang, Thomas Thin, Timothy C. Collins, Jesse Pilley and Edmund Chace were requested to interlocate at a future sitting, a few additional names of Friends to serve on the Committee, should they on consideration deem it expedient.

John C. Greene, George W. Parker, Joseph Tabor, Wm Henry Chace, Stephen Jones, jun. and Silas Meader were directed to prepare and produce at our morning sitting, a Summary of the Answers to the Queries received at the present time from the several Quarterly Meetings.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 15th. Friends again assembled, according to adjournment. The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present but two.

Our esteemed friend James Brown, an Elder of Ammanath Mo. Meeting, State of New York, who is now accompanying our beloved friends Thomas and Elizabeth Robson in the attendance of this Meeting, produced at this sitting, a minute expressive of the unity of his Friends with this engagement.

Having at this Meeting the company of our esteemed friends Huldah Hoag, of Farmington Mo. Meeting, Vermont; Susan R. Smith, of Burlington, New Jersey; Elizabeth Pittfield and Sarah Hillman, of Philadelphia Mo. District Mo. Meeting, and Ruth B. Haines, of Redstone Mo. Meeting, Pennsylvania, — satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with their ministry & present religious engagements, were also read at this sitting.

This Meeting then entered upon a consideration of the state of Society as embraced in the answers to the Queries received from the several Quarterly Meetings, which were gone through with, under a measure, as we trust, of that precious covering, which is the crown of all rightly gathered assemblies. And much of instructive counsel and advice, as well as of encouragement, was affectionately imparted, in the love of the Gospel, on various subjects brought into view.

The following Summary embraces the substance of the answers received:

Ans. 1. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended, with the exception of six, one a small Meeting held under the care of a Committee, and five occasioned by the inclemency of the weather and impassable

1841. state of the roads.— Those on first-days are attended by most of our members; midweek meetings and those for discipline are neglected by a considerable number. The hours mostly observed. A few instances of sleeping excepted, generally clear of unbecoming behaviour. Some care has been extended. — 2. It appears that most Friends are concerned to maintain love and unity, and to guard against detraction; yet there is a deficiency with some in these important duties. Endeavours have been used in most cases, to end differences when they have arisen. —— 3. A concern is maintained by most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, and to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from corrupting conversation, and to be exemplary therein themselves; yet it appears that there is a falling short with many in these respects. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in nearly all our families. — 4. Friends are careful, with a few exceptions, to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns. — Other places of public resort not so carefully avoided by a few as would be best. — Moderation appears to be maintained on the occasions referred to in this Query. —— 5. Generally clear, except a few instances of placing children from among Friends. Some care taken. 6. Care appears to be prevalent with most Friends that proceedings with respect to marriage may be conformable to discipline: in most cases where it has been otherwise, some care has been extended. —— 7. Our testimonies in these respects are generally maintained, with the exception of a few cases of a military nature, which are under notice; and a few instances, in one Quarterly Meeting, of members attending meetings where there is a hired ministry. 8. Generally careful in these respects, though not without some exceptions in regard to punctuality in the fulfilment of promises; and Friends are mostly careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances. 9. Marriage certificates duly recorded. Births, deaths and burials sometimes neglected. Several instances of removals without certificates; most of which are under notice. —— 10.— Care is taken to deal with offenders in good measure as queried after, though not in all cases so seasonably as would be best. And to place judgment when necessary, according to discipline.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment. The Committee to whom was referred the subject from Salem Quarterly Meeting; and the Epistle from London in relation to Slavery and the Slave Trade; together with the Document from the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia, Report, That they have taken the subject into their serious and solid consideration, and are united in judgment, that the whole subject be referred to the consideration of our Meeting for Sufferings. [Signed on behalf of the Committee, by Stephen Jones.] —— which

1841. being considered, was satisfactory to us, and the subject was accordingly referred to the attention of that Meeting.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers accounts, and for other purposes, produced the following Report, viz. "To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee to settle the Treasurer's account, Report, That we have examined and settled his account and find a balance due the Meeting of $995.36. We would propose the sum of $1300 to be raised for the use of the Meeting the ensuing year. — and David Buffum for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6 mo 15 th, 1841. William Reynolds."

—— which being considered, was satisfactory to the meeting and in conformity therewith. David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing, and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of $1300, the sum proposed to be raised viz. Rhode-Island 300 $ 4 Salem 12½ — Sandwich, 30 — Smithfield, 12½ — Dover 6¼ — Falmouth 4¾ — Nantucket 11. —

The Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before this Meeting and read. — and the attention given by Friends of that Meeting, to the various important concerns of Society that have engaged their consideration, was satisfactory to the Meeting; and they were encouraged to persevere in their attention to the subject of Slavery, by embracing every right opening to plead the cause of the oppressed.

It appearing by the minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings that agreeably to the direction of this Meeting last year, they had caused an edition of the book of Discipline to be printed; and had forwarded to the Quarterly Meetings, a number thought to be sufficient to supply the present wants of the several Meetings, and that 225 copies remain on hand subject to the disposal of this Meeting — it was concluded that 75 copies should be retained to supply such future necessities of Meetings as may occur; and that the remainder may be disposed of to individual members, and the proceeds paid into the hands of the Treasurer.

The Meeting for Sufferings having published an edition of Memorials of deceased Friends of this Yearly Meeting, it was recommended to subordinate Meetings to enter into subscriptions therefor, (at 25 cts each,) and the Clerks of Monthly Meetings were requested to forward to the Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings, the number of copies called for in each Meeting.

The Committee on the Correspondence was desired to prepare essays of Certificates or minutes for such Friends now with us from abroad, (conferring with a Committee of the Women's Meeting, in any cases where it may be necessary,) & produce them at a future sitting.

The Friends now under appointment, (with the exception of one friend removed from us, and one deceased since last year,)

Jno Brown, Seth Rilley,

1841. are continued to constitute a Meeting for sufferings for the ensuing year, or till another appointment, to act therein according to the original service and authority given to that Meeting.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day morning, the 16th.

Again met according to adjournment.

Representatives present, same as yesterday.

A Testimony of Sandwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend, Brownell Swift, deceased; being read, was approved, and directed to be placed on record.

The Friends appointed at a previous sitting, to consider of the propriety of a few additions to the School Committee, proposed the following names, viz. Thomas Akin, Edmund Chase, Newhall Hoxie, James Dennis, Jonathan L. Slocum, Abner Slade and Micajah C. Pratt — which being satisfactory to the Meeting, they were requested to unite with the Committee now under appointment, in the discharge of the duties assigned them.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed last year to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals, report, That they have given such attention to the duties of their appointment as way has opened for, and circumstances have required; and believe it right to propose to the Meeting, the appointment of a Committee for similar services for the year ensuing. [Signed on behalf of the Committee, by Thomas Jones, Mary Howland.]

which being considered, was united with, and the following friends now under appointment, viz. John Warren, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Edward Wing, John D. Lang, Silas Earle, Mr. Shearman, jun., Percy Peck, David Buffum, Daniel Tabor, Tho.s Jones, Enoch Breed, Charles Chace, Sam.l Taylor, jun.r Caleb Nichols, Wm Jenkins, John Meader, Geo.e Howland, Sem.l Jones, of Brunswick, and Allen Wing, were continued on the part of this Meeting, for another year, to the same service; and were desired to labour as way may open for it, in discharge of the duties assigned them, as by minute of last year, viz. "to extend a general care on our behalf, for the preservation of love and unity among our members, and the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies; and in the ability that may be afforded them, to assist and advise such Meetings and members as circumstances may require, and way open for, under the direction of best wisdom." And were requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee on the concern of this Yearly Meeting, in relation to the Indians located beyond the Mississippi, produced the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee on the concern of this Yearly Meeting in relation to the Indians located West of the Mississippi,

1841 Report, That the subject has claimed their solid consideration; and although no Friend has yet presented who believed it to be his duty to visit them in their present location; yet they believe there is some cause to hope that the concern of Friends in relation to them, in conjunction with the Yearly Meeting of New York may ere long be more fully carried into effect; and they would propose that the subject should be continued under the care of a Committee.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m° 16th, 1841. Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk of the Com^tee

Which being considered, the Committee now under appointment, * was encouraged to give their continued attention to the subject, in the hope that the object Friends have had in view in this concern, may, as expressed by the Committee, ere long more fully carried into effect, and were requested to report to this Meeting, next year.

* see p. 124.

Adjourned to the 3 h hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed in 1838, and since continued, upon the proposition from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting for a division of that Meeting, produced the following report,

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed in 1838, and since continued upon the proposition from Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting for a division of that Meeting; Report: That they have conferred together upon the subject, as it is now before the Yearly Meeting from that Quarter, and are united in judgment that the request be granted; and that Fairfield Quarterly Meeting to be held in the 11th month next, and be held as proposed by their minute.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m° 16, 1841. Thomas Anthony,
Ruth Davis.

Which after deliberate consideration, was united with, and it was concluded that the division take place as now proposed; by the united the Women's Meeting

viz. the separation of Sidney, Litchfield, (formerly Leeds,) and N. Vassal Monthly Meetings therefrom, and that those Monthly Meetings constitute a new Quarterly Meeting by the name of Fairfield; and that the two Quarterly Meetings be held at the times and places proposed to this Meeting by Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, in 1838, viz:

"That Fairfield Quarterly Meeting be held alternately at Fairfield and Hallowell, to commence at Hallowell on fourth-day before the second sixth day in the 11th month next, and at Fairfield on fourth days before the second sixth days in the second and ninth months, and at Hallowell on the last sixth day in the fifth month. And that Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting be held on the second sixth days in the second, ninth and eleventh months, and on fourth day before the last sixth day in the fifth month.

Also that the preparative

1841 Meetings of Ministers and Elders of Sidney & Litchfield Monthly Meetings constitute a select Quarterly Meeting."

And Thomas Jones, Stephen Jones, John D. Long, Thomas Anthony, Nathan Pope, John Ruffum, John W. Hunt, Rowland Greene, Joseph Metcalf, and Robert Bowen were appointed to attend the sittings of the two Quarterly Meetings in the 11th month next, render them any advice and assistance which they find necessary, and report to this Meeting next year.

And the Clerk was directed to furnish a copy of this Minute to be laid before Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting to be held in the 9th month next, and another copy to Samuel Taylor, jun. for the use of the new Quarterly Meeting.

The Committee on the concern of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, produced a Report.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee having some care of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, Report, That since our last Yearly Meeting one of their number has resided amongst them about three months, at the request of the Government of Maine. They were making some improvements in agriculture, manners, language, dress, and domestic habits. The Women make up nearly all their own and their children's clothing. Their crops of grain, hay, potatoes, &c. rather exceeds that of former years. The number of their domestic animals about the same as heretofore. The Committee have rendered the usual assistance in building two barns and one house, during the past year. There are two barns now in the progress of building, towards the expense of which the usual assistance will be extended. Their grounds are in an improved state the present year. And they manifest much willingness to comply with the advice of the Committee.

"The Committee propose an appropriation of fifty dollars for the present year.

"Way has not opened for any of the Committee to visit the Passamaquaddy Tribe. They have however not been unmindful of them.

"We propose to the Yearly Meeting the continuance of a Committee. Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 4m. 1th, 1841. Stephen Jones, jun."

Which affording us encouragement to believe that the continued care of the Meeting will be productive of usefulness to this people, the Friends now under appointment on this service were requested to extend such aid to them during the ensuing year, as way may open for; and were also encouraged to give attention to the concern opened in this Meeting last year in regard to the Passamaquaddy Tribe of Indians, should way open for it, and report to our next Yearly Meeting. Our Treasurer was requested to pay to our friend Stephen Jones, jun. the sum of $50, to be appropriated, as usual, under the care of the Committee.

1839. Essays of communications to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ohio, forwarded by the Committee on the Correspondence, were read and approved. 4th Meeting Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 17th.

Friends again met according to Adjournment.

Representative all present but one.

Being informed that our beloved friend Anna J. Penford has been liberated to attend the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to perform a religious visit to some of the Meetings within their limits, Rowland Green, Thomas Anthony, Joseph Ketcham, John Robson, Jno. Meader, Moses H. Roots and Allen Wing were named a Committee on the part of this Meeting with whom she may advise and consult on any subject connected with this concern.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our friends now with us from abroad with minutes agreeably to Essays proposed by the Committee to whom that subject was referred.

The minute directed to be furnished to our beloved friend Thomas Robson, of Great Britain, is as follows:

"To Hardshaw West Monthly Meeting.

"Our beloved friend Thomas Robson, who accompanies his Wife Elizabeth Robson, acceptably attended this Meeting in 1839; and is again with us at this time to our satisfaction. His exemplary deportment and Christian labours among us have been very acceptable and salutary."

[Other minutes directed to be furnished will be found on a sheet at close of records of present year.]

Essays of communications to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of Ireland, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina and Indiana were presented by the Committee on the Correspondence, and being read were approved, and the Clerk was directed to transcribe and sign them on our behalf, together with the communications to the Yearly Meetings of London and Ohio read at our last sitting, and forward to those Meetings respectively.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our minutes not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

The following Certificate of the acceptable company and Religious labours of our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson, of Great Britain, while with us in the year 1839, and again at the present time was read, and being very fully united with, the Clerk was directed to furnish her with a copy thereof signed on our behalf, viz.

"To the Monthly Meeting of Hardshaw West, the Quarterly Meeting of Lancashire, and the Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

"Our beloved friend Elizabeth Robson informed this Meeting that she believed the service within our limits were drawing towards a close. This will inform

1841 you, that in the course of his arduous religious engagements in our land she acceptably attended this Yearly Meeting in 1839, and at that time visited nearly all the Meetings, and a large number of the families of Friends, to the comforting and strengthening of many amongst us, as appeared by the accounts from several of our Quarterly Meetings. She is again with us at this time, and her company and Gospel labours have been to our satisfaction and edification.

"We feel precariously united to this our dear Sister, in the bonds of Christian fellowship: and when her services in our country are concluded, and a release granted her by the Great Head of the Church, we pray she be favoured to return in safety to her family and friends, with the enriching reward of peace.

"Signed by direction and on behalf of our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held in Rhode-Island from the 13th to the 17th, inclusive, of the sixth Month, 1841,

by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.
Hannah Gould, jun. Clerk."

"Having been favoured during the several sittings of this Meeting to witness as we humbly trust, an extension of the wings of Ancient Goodness over us, under which we have been enabled to conduct the various important concerns that have claimed our attention, in harmony with feelings of gratitude for the mercies extended to us, we now conclude, purposing to meet on this Island at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

Epistles

From the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held on Rhode-Island from the 13th to the 17th, inclusive, of the Sixth, month, 1841,

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

We count it among the mercies graciously extended to us by Him who still careth for us, that we have been permitted to meet at this time in our annual assembly, and to witness the breaking of bread among us to the refreshing of our spirits. We feel bound thankfully to acknowledge an extension of mercy to us; so that some of us who came up hither in much weakness have been favoured to partake a little of the Lords bounty, and to feel our strength to be renewed. We have been

1841.

Our beloved friend Joseph Brown attended this meeting — His company and religious services have been truly acceptable and edifying to us —

Our beloved friend Richard H. Thomas attended this meeting — His company and religious services have been acceptable and edifying to us —

Our beloved friend Jeremiah Hubbard attended this meeting — His company and religious services have been acceptable to us —

Our beloved friend Amos Battey attended this meeting — His company and religious services have been acceptable to us —

To Hardshaw West m. mtg.

Our beloved friend Thomas Robson who accompanies his wife Elizabeth Robson acceptably attended this meeting in 1839 and is again with us at this time to our satisfaction —

His exemplary deportment and christian labors among us have been very acceptable and salutary —

Our beloved friend Zeno Carpenter attended this meeting — His company and religious services have been acceptable to us —

Our esteemed friend William Renworthy ~~also~~ companion to our friend Jeremiah Hubbard attended this meeting — His company has been acceptable to us —

In unity to James Brown, Eli Haines & Jos.h Snowden

1841. made afresh to feel that at the cause is the Lord's it becomes us in humble reverent dependence to wait upon Him, and to look unto Him for strength and ability to do His holy will. As this is our concern, whatever may be our attainments, however lonely may be our situations, however deep our sufferings, we shall find our strength made perfect in weakness, for we shall know the Lord most High to sustain us. And as we become divested of self, of all confidence in our own might and power, as we are humbled as in the very dust before Him, how unspeakable sustaining is the lifting up of the light of His countenance upon us. In this condition of mind are we brought truly to love Him who first loved us, and gave Himself for us; and not only so, but we give evidence of true discipleship by our love for the brethren. We feel the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace to be exceedingly precious, realizing in some degree the depth of the intercession of our blessed Lord for his immediate followers: "That they may be one, as thou Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they may be one in us." It has been our concern at this time that we might increasingly be favoured to know this blessed unity which is in the Father and the Son, and that being planted and established in Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages, we might grow up unto Him in all things.

Under, we trust, a measure of this precious cementing love, we have felt tenderly drawn toward you, beloved brethren, and have been comforted by the reading of your acceptable Epistle of last year. We respond to the desire expressed by you that the fellowship between us may continue, and increase, "by our being every one of us concerned, in all simplicity and Godly sincerity, to be found among the faithful self-denying followers of Christ." It is indeed an unspeakable privilege to be permitted to come up in the footsteps of the flock of the companions of Christ; to know Him to be our leader, our Saviour and our Judge; even Him who died for us and rose again, and who ever liveth to make intercession for us. We have been made renewedly to feel that while with other religious denominations, we could rejoice in one common Saviour and Redeemer, and that our only Hope was in Him — it continues to be our unabated duty still to maintain faithfully, all those distinguishing views and testimonies, which our forefathers were called to see were according to the purity of the Gospel of Christ; and a living concern prevails with us that Friends every where may be faithful therein; that their light may shine before the world, and they be favoured to discharge their duty to God and their fellow men.

In addition to the usual communication from you, we acknowledge the receipt of a circular Epistle addressed to the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent on the subject of Slavery. This very interesting concern has long

1841

encreased our most serious attention, and we have been truly solicitous to act in relation to it under the guidance of that wisdom, in that way which will be most conducive to the promotion of emancipation, and to the bettering of every state of bondage. Our Meeting for Sufferings have this concern deeply resting upon them, and they were encouraged by this Meeting still to persevere, and to embrace every opening in the light of Truth, for the promotion of the great end at which we aim; and we have believed at this time that there was some ground for hope, that as Friends keep distinct from the various associations of the world, and act in relation to it upon religious ground, and under right qualification, they will be enabled yet more effectually to plead the cause of the oppressed. ——
Your Epistle was referred to the attention of the Meeting for Sufferings.

"We still continue to extend a care towards the Aboriginal of our country, and especially to the Seneca tribe of Indians, and feel that this interesting & injured portion of the human family have strong claims upon our benevolent and Christian feelings.

"We believe that it will be satisfactory to you to be informed that at this Meeting we have had the attendance of many of our young men, who have manifested much interest in the weighty concerns that have claimed our attention and have given comfortable evidence that they were under the forming hand of Him who alone can fit them for service in his Church, and we trust that this class of our Society may, where may be mercifully favoured, under a humbling sense of what the Lord has done for them, in early life, be drawn more to the yoke of Christ, that they may know his sustaining and preserving power to be with them, enabling them to perform all the duties which he requires of them, and rewarding them with the sweet enjoyment of that peace which the world knows not of.

"Among those from abroad acceptably in attendance at this Meeting are our beloved friends Thomas & Elizabeth Watson from your land.

With the salutation of brotherly love,
We are your friends
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shoemaker, jun. Clk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends

Assembled in the present occasion, our dear absent brethren have been affectionately brought to our remembrance. Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been read, together with Epistles from each of the other Yearly Meetings.

1841. They have been refreshing and comforting to us. We esteem it a precious privilege, for which we desire to be earnestly thankful to the great Head of the Church that we are permitted to meet together in his name. We have desired that each of us might earnestly feel that the cause is hers; and introduced into a concern for the welfare of the Church, may become faithful instruments in his holy hand for the performance of such service as he may require. We have been comforted together in the belief that the various portions of our religious Society, though far separated, are one people, quickened by the same Holy Faith, building on the one sure foundation; that one is our Master even Christ and all we are brethren. The profession that we are making is indeed a high profession, and it is our desire that our members individually may be encouraged to a faithful maintenance of our Christian doctrines, looking in the obedience of faith unto him who hath declared, "Without me ye can do nothing." As our eye is directed unto Christ, having no confidence in the flesh, as we become more and more willing to trust in the Lord with all our heart, leaning not to our own understanding, have we not, dear Friends, a comforting assurance that he will direct our steps.

Though deficiencies still exist as manifested by the answers to the Queries, we believe there are many among us who travail for the welfare of Zion, and the enlargement of her borders; who prefer Jerusalem above their chief joy. May such among you, as well as with us, be enabled patiently & earnestly to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. May they thro the preserving power of Truth be enabled in their lives and conversation to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. That this language may be held forth to those who must ere long occupy their places: "Follow us, as we follow Christ."

The religious and guarded education of the youth among us continues to claim the attention of this Meeting. Parents and guardians have been affectionately encouraged to labour faithfully in the discharge of their duties in this respect.

Our Committee having a care over the Cornbrash tribe of Indians presented an encouraging report, from which it appears that the tribe is gradually increasing in number and advancing in the arts of civilized life. The subject of Slavery as existing in some sections of our country has engaged the attention of our Meeting for sufferings, who are encouraged to embrace every opening in the Truth to plead the cause of the oppressed. Your sympathy with us in this interesting concern is gratifying to us; and earnestly we desire that He who delighteth in justice, whose mercies are over all his works, who permitteth not even a sparrow to fall without his notice, may in his own time arise for their help.

Our Meeting has been large, and the precious covering that has mercifully been spread over us, with the harmony that has marked our deliberations, has been acknowledged as an evidence that our Heavenly Father is still mindful of us.

We earnestly reciprocate your desire that we may all be en-

1811. encouraged to increased faithfulness in the service of our Lord. May each rightly occupy the talents with which he is intrusted, and in the end of time, through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus our Lord, be permitted to enter into his rest.

With a salutation of love, we remain,
Your Friends and Brethren,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

"Being once more permitted to assemble in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, our minds were on the reading of the communications from our distant brethren renewedly impressed with the importance and usefulness of our epistolary intercourse; believing as we are favoured to keep under right influence, we may be made instrumental in building one another up in the Lord.

"We are, dear Friends, making profession of the same Holy Faith — we profess to believe in one Lord and "Father of us all" — and the injunction, "Ye believe in God, believe also in me," continues to be binding upon the children of men. — Not only to believe on him as he came on earth to do his Father's will, — in his sufferings, death, resurrection, and intercession for us; but also in his spiritual manifestations in the heart, leading & guiding us into all Truth, as we are attentive to the immediate influence of his Spirit. — And that this may be experienced, we have been constrained at this time most ardently to desire for ourselves and all of our beloved friends. — 'Then shall we be not only qualified to observe the first and great commandment,' but also that which is like unto it — "thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." For on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. And how precious to feel this 'Love to God and love to man.' It endears brethren to each other — all who believe in one Lord, one Faith, and one Baptism. If we are brought under this influence we shall be found to be in that state of mind which thinketh no evil. — Love charity would abound; jealousy could find no entrance into the heart; but the law of love and kindness would regulate our conduct toward each other, and the peaceable fruits of righteousness would be so manifested in our daily, that others being witnesses thereof, the language of our example would be, 'Come and follow us as we follow Christ.'

"We do fully unbend to the sentiment conveyed in your Epistle, that it is to be desired that in all the circumstances, transactions and pursuits of life, our members may be kept within the limitations of Truth; —

and we would not confine the application of the desire to the concerns of business only; for it is of great moment that the dispositions of mind which we entertain and cherish toward each other, may also be kept within those Holy limitations. — If our dispositions and feelings are in accordance with the spirit of the Gospel, we shall be careful to erect no other standard than the Truth, and to this at all times shall we be willing to come. And may it be our united endeavour, Beloved Friends, more and more, under the cementing influence of Love, to be instrumental in building one another up in the most Holy Faith.

It has afforded us much satisfaction to observe by your Epistle, your continued attention to a portion of the suffering Aborigines of our country. They are entitled to our warmest sympathy, and we desire your encouragement in the kind extension of care for this people. The Penobscot Tribe, within our limits, continued to afford encouragement by their steady progress in civilization, particularly in the cultivation of their lands, the improvement in their general habits, and in their domestic life. It is also encouraging to know that their number are increasing.

The subject of Slavery continues to occupy our serious consideration, and we desire that every right opening may be embraced, both with you and with us, to do what it may be in our power to do, to assist in removing this deep stain from our common country. The document forwarded by you, together with the subject at large, was referred to our Meeting for Sufferings for their serious consideration and attention; and they were encouraged, as way rightly opens, to do what may appear to them best calculated to promote the well being of this oppressed race.

Our Meeting at this time has been well attended, and its several sittings have been seasons of favour. We have had the company of a large number of our young members, who have given evidence of their being under the preparing hand for service: by their becoming appearance, solid deportment, and the interest they have manifested in the important concerns of the Meeting.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun^r Clk.

To New-York.

Dear Friends,

Through the unmerited mercy of our heavenly Father we have been permitted again to assemble together and to realize that notwithstanding our many weaknesses and shortcomings, the great Head of the Church still condescends to be with us, and to overshadow us with his love.

Your

1841. Your acceptable Epistle of 5th mo last has been received, together with Epistolary communications from other Yearly Meetings, in the reading of which our distant brethren have been brought feelingly to our remembrance, and desires have been raised in our hearts for the welfare of the church and the enlargement of her borders.

Among the most prominent causes for the deficiences brought to view by the answers to the Queries, is, we believe, the want of a due sense of the obligations we are under to our great and merciful Creator, to attend our religious meetings; and we desire that all of us may be concerned to make this public acknowledgment of our allegiance to the great King of Kings. — "I beseech you, brethren, saith the Apostle, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable, which is your reasonable service; and be ye not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." We have desired that all our members wheresoever situated, who have not been careful in the attendance of our religious meetings may reflect, how they can enter into the closet of the heart, & shut the door, and there availingly put up their petitions in secret to their heavenly Father for preservation from evil, & for his will to be done on earth as it is done in heaven, where they are sensible, that by making the attendance of these meetings a matter of convenience rather than duty, they are withholding from Him, that which is his due. If we were concerned to love Him above every thing else, who first loved us, and who sent his only begotten Son into the world; to offer himself up a sacrifice for our sins, thereby to open a way for our redemption, we believe we should prize the privilege of thus meeting together, and that these seasons would prove refreshing to our spirits, & we should be made to say with the Psalmist, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." — Could we become earnestly engaged in this sense, thus to meet in his name, and to offer unto him that acceptable worship which must be performed in Spirit and in Truth, we believe that the deficiences in the maintenance of our testimonies over which the baptized members of the Church have to mourn, would be done away, and our lights would so shine before men, that we should be as a city set on a hill that cannot be hid.

We have at this time had the company of many of our young men, some of whom have given an evidence that they are yielding to the cross of Christ. And we have desired for these, that they may be encouraged to bow unreservedly to the restraining influence thereof; that while young and just setting out in life, they may not place their affections upon the perishing things of this world; but that they may be concerned to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and come to know all their desires to be bounded by the limitations of Truth.

The subject of Slavery and the Slave Trade, has again been brought before us, and lively concern was felt, that we may lose no opportunity in the opening of Truth, to labour for the utter extinction of this iniquitous system. And our members were affectionately entreated to keep upon the ground of religious concern, in all their movements; believing that this is the only way in which we can proceed with safety. The subject was referred to the continued care of our Meeting for Sufferings.

Our Committee upon the subject of the Indians West of the Mississippi, who have been made by the objects of concern with this and your Yearly Meeting, made a report; by which it appears, that they are encouraged to believe that the time is approaching, when some one will be found, who will stand assigned to make them a visit, and to place the Committee more fully in possession of information relative to their situation.

Our Meeting at this time has been well attended, and we have felt during the sittings thereof, renewed evidence that the Lord hath not forgotten to be gracious.—To Him be all the praise who alone is able to keep us from falling.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

In the love of the Gospel we again salute you, and acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable Epistle of 10th mo. last. These evidences of sympathy and brotherly regard have afresh revived the truth that we are one people; one in faith, one in practice, and one in the fellowship of the same blessed Truth; and that however at times the enemy may send and mar our goodly heritage; yet as our confidence is in Him who permits not a sparrow to fall without his notice, we shall be kept upon that foundation which standeth sure. The profession that we are making is high and holy; but dear Friends, we desire that none of us may rest in a profession merely.—If we are ever, through adorable mercy, permitted to enter the mansions of rest and peace, it must be through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost: a death unto sin and a new birth unto righteousness must be experienced. We must submit to the baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire, and when we are purged from the dross and the tin and the reprobate silver, and in deep humility can adopt the language, Not my will, but thine, O Father be done, we shall become qualified to contend successfully, for the faith once delivered to the saints, to maintain those doctrines and testimonies which our worthy predecessors in the Truth were concerned to support, and for the maintenance of which they suffered so deeply.

That

The state of Society, as exhibited by the answers to the Queries, has furnished us with renewed evidence that more devotedness to the cause of our Divine Master, and a less ardent pursuit of the things of this world should be witnessed, and a concern has been felt that all our dear Friends may ever bear in mind the injunction and consoling promise of our Lord, Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

During the several sittings of the Meeting we have been favoured to witness that He who first gathered us to be a people, still deigns to be gracious. And under, as we trust, a measure of his qualifying power, we have been enabled to conduct the concerns that have come before us in much harmony.

An interesting report from the Committee having charge of the Penobscot Indians was made to the Meeting by which it appears that this remnant of the Aborigines of our country, continued to make some advances in the arts and comforts of civilized Society, and are increasing in their numbers. We are glad to learn from your Epistle, that this suffering class of our fellow creatures continued to claim your attention. To sympathise with and relieve suffering, but neglected Humanity, is one of the great duties of Christian benevolence, and we desire your encouragement in this work of mercy.

The condition of that portion of the human family held in cruel and unjust bondage in our land has again claimed our attention, and a fervent desire has been felt that every right opening may be embraced to plead their cause, and to labour for the removal of this iniquity from our country.

With a salutation of love, we remain,
Your Friends and Brethren.
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

We desire reverently to acknowledge the mercies of our heavenly Father in again permitting us to meet together in this our annual assembly, to wait upon his great and worthy name for the renewal of our spiritual strength, and to transact the weighty concerns of the church. And with heartfelt gratitude to the Giver of every good and perfect gift we feel bound to acknowledge, that the mantle of Ancient Goodness has been mercifully spread over us at this time, to the tendering of the hearts and contriting of the spirits of many of us; under an humbling sense whereof, we desire to become more weaned from the vain attractions and allurements of this world, and more devoted to the promotion of the blessed cause of truth and righteousness in the earth.

Although

Although we trust that we have been made sensible of the presence of our Blessed Lord and Master, which has indeed been strength in weakness and a present help in the needful time: yet we have had to mourn over the deficiencies brought to view as existing among us, which called forth the expression of much tender counsel and advice from concerned Friends. Oh! this need there is of a deeper indwelling in Him who is Love: Then, as we come to experience this, we shall witness forgiving love and charity to flow to all our fellow-creatures, as brethren, and children of the same universal Parent. How would this regulate all our conduct, to the entire exclusion of that baneful spirit of detraction, which as indulged in, will undermine and destroy the peace and harmony of individuals and of the body.

We received your acceptable Epistle of 3d month last, and while we deeply sympathize with you, in the varied trials through which you are permitted to pass, we would encourage our beloved brethren to a faithful reliance upon Him, whose mercies are over all his works, and who has promised that for the sighing of the poor, and crying of the needy, he will arise.

With you, we can express the deep interest we feel in the subject of Slavery.—And we desire that Friends with us, and with you, may cherish feelings of Christian sympathy and love towards the unhappy victims of this cruel bondage, and improve every right opening to ameliorate their condition. And whilst we earnestly desire to do all consistent with the "Truth," to loose the bands of wickedness, and undo the heavy burdens, that the oppressed may go free, we would affectionately remind our beloved Friends every where, that the cause is the Lord's. And may we all seek for that wisdom which is from above, pure, gentle and easy to be intreated, to direct all our movements in this Christian cause; remembering that the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong; and that unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain who build it.

The situation of the Indians west of the Mississippi still claims the attention of this Meeting; as also that of the Penobscot tribe, who continue to make some improvements in husbandry.

With the salutation of love, we conclude, and are

Your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk.

To North-Carolina.

Dear Friends,

It is cause of humble gratitude to the Father of mercies, that we are again permitted to assemble in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, for the purpose of transacting the important and deeply interesting concerns relating to the welfare of our religious Society; and for the promotion of the cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth.

Our

1841. Our hearts have been united in this concern, under the
comforting influence of Divine Love which binds together
the flock and family of Christ. Those are permitted to
drink of the one cup being baptized into the one Spirit.
It is a Scripture Truth, which has been abundantly verified
by experience, and which we and a people have ever fully
acknowledged, that a manifestation of the Holy Spirit is
given to every man to profit withal; Were we individually
obedient to its dictates, the Spirit would more constrictively
abound, and the deficiencies which are cause of exercise to
concerned brethren, would be removed from amongst us.

We are encouraged at this time in the persuasion that
there is a living, and we trust an increasing number, who are
preferring the welfare of Zion to their chief joy. We feel
a desire that these may be strengthened to every good word
and work, to which they may be called by Him who is
strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present helper
in every needful time; the extension of whose mercy of an-
cient goodness over our assemblies, is a renewed confirm-
ation that we are not forsaken of Him. May we thank
God for his many favours and take courage, pressing for-
ward towards the mark for the prize of the high calling
of God in Christ Jesus, bearing in mind in all our move-
ments of a religious nature, his own declaration, "With-
out me ye can do nothing." A state of humble depend-
ence on Him for fresh supplies of strength is necessary in
order rightly to perform what He may require at our hands;
as this is our concern, we shall be enabled effectually to
labour in his cause, and shall experience that peace
which the world knows not of.

It affords us satisfaction to learn that the oppressed
African race continue to claim your attention, and that
you are engaged to ameliorate their condition. Your situ-
ation in the midst of Slavery is doubtless replete with
trials of various kinds which claim our brotherly sympathy,
and we desire that you may be encouraged still to con-
tinue to improve every opening which may present a
prospect of usefulness to that people.

This Epistolary correspondence between the Yearly
Meetings, no doubt was instituted under the precious
influence of Gospel Love. It has been and will continue
to be instructive and edifying, as we are engaged to dwell
in this Love. This Yearly Meeting has
been well attended, and among us is a considerable pro-
portion of young men, many of whom evince that they
are under the framing hand of the Heavenly Master,
preparing for usefulness in his Church.

In the Love of the Gospel, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jr. Clk

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of 9th month last has been received at this time; and in the reading thereof, together with other epistolary communications from other parts of our Yearly Meetings, our dear and brethren have been brought feelingly to our remembrance, and desires have been raised in our hearts that we may be instrumental in strengthening and building one another up in the most holy Faith, and be favoured to experience that One is our Master, even Christ, and all we are brethren.

One distinguishing feature in the precepts of the Gospel is, that the great plan of redemption is always the same; and in addressing you at the present time, we feel thankful that we have no new doctrines to set forth. Repentance towards God and Faith in our Lord and Saviour are the prominent features of this plan. Not simply an assent to the truths of the historical account of the coming and sufferings of our Lord and Master, as they are recorded in the Holy Scriptures, but a true and living Faith in Him; that Faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart; and without which it is impossible to please God. How beautifully did our blessed Lord sum in that prepared body set forth the whole duty of man, when questioned by the Scribe; which was the first and great commandment: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind; this is the first and great commandment, and the second is like unto it; thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. — On these two commandments hang all the Law and the prophets. We have desired at this present time that we may be increasingly concerned to become possessors of this love, and that we may be engaged oftener than the morning to enter into self-examination, and seek to know if there be any thing which obstructs the free circulation thereof. God is Love, and they that dwell in Him dwell in Love. And in order to arrive at this great attainment we must become concerned to live in his fear, earnestly putting up our petitions to Him who has given power, fervently to offer the daily sacrifice upon the altar of the heart, whereby we should know this pure love to arise within us, and at seasons be permitted to become partakers of that bread which nourisheth up the soul unto everlasting life. Under a humbling sense of the obligations we are under to Him from whom we derive all our blessings both temporal and spiritual, who first loved us before we loved Him, we should feel the necessity of attending all our religious duties and of fervently waiting upon Him for a renewal of our strength.

The preservation of the body in harmony and unity would become exceedingly precious, and our eyes would be mercifully anointed to see the opportunities of the adversary of our souls' happiness in his most subtle transformations, and he would not be permitted to sow the seeds of distrust within our borders. But in that perfect love which casteth out fear we should become

1841 as Epistles written in each others hearts, bound together in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.

The subject of Slavery and the Slave Trade continues to occupy our attention and an ardent solicitude for ourselves that we may improve every right opening to labour for the removal of this iniquitous system. — And remembering that the preparation of the heart and the answer of the tongue are of the Lord, we have felt with you an affectionate desire that in all our movements in this important engagement, we may keep upon the ground of religious concern, believing that this is the only way in which we can move with safety, and unitedly plead the cause of the oppressed.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman jun. Clk

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

You have again been brought afresh to our remembrance by the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 10th mo. last; and we are comforted and encouraged by the brotherly feeling and concern manifested in yours, and similar communications received from other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and those of London and Ireland, evincing that one is our Master, even Christ, and all we are brethren, — activated by that precious principle of Love which unites together as the heart of one man, and breathes peace on earth and good will to men.

Our Meeting has been well attended, and many of us are humbled under a sense of the condescending goodness of the Great Head of the Church, who has not been unmindful of us, but has graciously come to be manifested himself by the reaching of Truth, to the refreshing of our spirits, enabling us to transact the weighty concerns which have come before us, in much harmony and brotherly love.

On adverting to the state of society as brought into our view by the answers to the Queries, we can say in the language of your Epistle, that we learn with sorrow that deficiencies still exist amongst us, which caused a deep exercise to concerned Friends; and much feeling advice and counsel were imparted, which we desire may serve to awaken us to an individual examination of how far we are the cause; — When we consider that year after year, similar reports are received from our subordinate Meetings, is it not time, dear Friends, for those who are concerned for their own salvation to be aroused to an increased sense of their duty towards delinquent brethren; and may none say as one did formerly, Am I my brother's keeper; but remember this injunction of our dear Redeemer: 'If thy brother trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.' Also that of the Apostle; 'Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault ye that are spiritual restore

1841 such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." May we be willing to bear one another's burthens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

The care and concern you manifest for the improvement of the condition of the Indians and people of colour together with the encouraging prospects of usefulness to them, have been a comfort to our minds; and we desire your encouragement in their labours of love, believing the Lord will continue to bless you in the faithful discharge of these benevolent & Christian duties. We continue to extend some care to the Indians located in Maine, and although we have had to meet with many difficulties and discouragements, yet we are encouraged to believe that our labours have been blessed; their condition being now much improved, and their numbers increasing. This Meeting also manifests a lively concern for the welfare of the Indians removed West of the Mississippi; and we have referred the subject to the care of a Committee, as last year; and we believe the time not far distant, when some Friend or Friends will be found who will be willing to visit them, and more particularly ascertain their present state and condition.

The subjects of Slavery and the Slave Trade still continue to claim the serious and weighty consideration of this Meeting and of our Meeting for Sufferings; and the concern is continued under the care of the latter, and they encouraged to improve every opening in the Truth, to appear on behalf of this suffering people. We believe the time may when the Lord will more effectually carry on this great work of reformation, by calling more of his faithful servants into this field of labour, who under the baptizing power of truth and cross of Christ will be made willing to visit in Gospel love, the land of slavery and oppression, and there plead for the removal of this great evil, not only on account of the poor slaves, but also on account of the awful situation of those who continue to hold them in cruel bondage; for all are objects of redeeming love and the Lord willeth not the death of them that dieth, but that he turn from the evil of his way, repent and live.

In conclusion, dear Friends, may the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do his will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom, be glory for ever and ever.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, jun. Clk

1842. At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, held on Rhode-Island, commencing with Public Meetings for Worship, at Newport and Portsmouth, on First-day, the 12th, and at Newport, for Discipline, on 2d-day morning, the 13th of 6th mo. 1842.

Accounts being received from our several Quarterly Meetings the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting, viz;

For Rhode-Island, Rowland Greene, Benj. Rathbun, Thomas Anthony, Asa Sherman, Allen King, Daniel Foster, William Jenkins, Nicholas Congdon, Samuel Boyd Tobey, — — Salem, John Page, Enoch Reed, Abijah Johnson, Jon. Mitchell, Nathan Reed Lynn, Jon. Reed, Enoch Page, — — Sandwich, Barnabas Hobbs, Jane Kelley, Daniel Swift, Ezra Mitchell, Isaac R. Lloyd, Edward Little, Heath Gifford, Cromwell Barnard, John Potter. — — Falmouth, Tho. Jones, William Purinton, John Russell, Samuel Jones, Nathan Hoxie, David Winslow. — — Smithfield, Moses Aldrich, Daniel Cook, John Esten, Asa Farnum, James L. Fox, Eden Foster, Providence, Samuel Foster, Benj. Evans, Emily Lincoln, Joseph Yates, Caleb Nichols. — — Scituate, John D. Lang, Joseph Tenney, Benjamin Tripp, Joseph Battle, Fairfield, Samuel Sayles, jun. Frederick Dawn, Asa Wadsworth, Noah Hart, George Richardson.

When names were called, they were all present but two, for whose absence satisfactory reasons were assigned.

We have at this time the company of our beloved friends Stephen Grellet, of Burlington, Iowa Territory, and Benoni Sprague of Elba, Monthly and Farmington Quarterly Meeting, in the State of New York; who produced satisfactory Certificates of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry and present religious engagements.

We also have the company of our friends Henry Hinedale, of New York, companion to our friend Stephen Grellet, and Thomas Hill, of White-Water, N.C. Yearly Meeting, in the State of Indiana, who accompanies our friend Isaac Thornburgh. Who produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with these engagements.

The London General Epistle of the past year was read the instructive and salutary contents of which have been comforting and encouraging to us. Acceptable Epistles addressed to this Meeting from our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and from each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, except that of Virginia, were also received and read.

Rowland Greene, Moses H. Beede, Wm. Jenkins, Samuel Taylor, jun. John Esten, John Warren, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Daniel Hoxie, Lindley M. Hoag, Samuel Page, Peleg Mott, George Richardson, Joseph Hoag, Nathan Page, Caleb Jones, Nicholas Congdon, Joseph Davis, Abijah Johnson, George H. Baker, Benj. Tripp, John Milton Earle, Wm. Hill, Samuel Foster, Joseph Metcalf and Thomas Anthony were appointed

1842 to take said Epistle into consideration and as was now open for it. to prepare Epistles of communication to the Meetings respectively from which they were received and forward them at a future Sitting or Sittings.

It appears by the accounts received from our Quarterly Meetings that they have given the matter a Notice to the Payment to our Treasurer of their respective proportions of Stock, as agreed to at our Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia, Nathan Read, Benjamin Congo Matthews, Samuel Jones, John Osborne, Eggleston Lewis, jun. Wm. Hall, our Stock Keepers are appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers accounts, also to consider of a Sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year; and to propose a Treasurer.

We are informed that Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Green Plain Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Nathan C. Chandler to the Station of an Elder. That Smithfield Quarterly Meeting has united with the Yearly Meeting in the appointment of Richard Bailey, and with Elton Meeting in the appointment of Ruth Fry to the Station of Elders. That Dover Quarterly Meeting has united with Dover Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Lydia Thompson to the same Station. and that Fairfield Quarterly Meeting has united with Litchfield Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Rachel Evans to a similar Station.

Salem Quarterly Meeting proposes that the hour of holding their Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month be changed from the 11th to the 10th hour, which is united with by this and the Women's Meeting, and they allowed to hold said Meeting as proposed. The alteration to take place next year.

The following minute being embraced in the one from Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, viz. "This Meeting is united in a proposition from the members of the Select Quarterly Meeting, to have the time of holding their Select Quarterly Meeting changed from the 11th hour in the morning to the 2 hour in the afternoon, Women Friends uniting therein. Which is submitted for the consideration of the Yearly Meeting." Which being considered, the proposition was united with by this and the Women's Meeting, and they allowed to hold said Meeting at the 2d hour in the afternoon of the same days in which it is now held. This alteration to take place in the 9th month next.

And the Clerk was directed to forward copies of those minutes to those Meetings respectively.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met, pursuant to adjournment.

Rowland Evans, on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting that they had conferred together, and had united in proposing Abraham Shearman, jun. for Clerk, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, for Assistant Clerk for the year ensuing — which was acceptable to the Meeting, and they appointed to those services accordingly.

Having at this time the company of our beloved Friend Anna Shanbrough, of Walnut Ridge Monthly and Spiceland Quarterly Meeting, Indiana, satisfactory certificates of the unity of that

1842. Friends with the ministry and several religious engagements were read at this sitting. Also was also a satisfactory minute from Walnut Ridge Monthly Meeting on behalf of our friend Sarah Gardner, companion in our aforesaid Journey now in attendance of this Meeting.

The minutes of this Meeting for the past year were then read.

The annual report of the Committee having the superintendence of the Boarding School under the care of this Meeting was produced and read, and being satisfactory to Friends, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. — as follows

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee appointed to superintend the various concerns of the Boarding School, again Report, That they have endeavoured during the past year to discharge the important duties confided to them by the Yearly Meeting. The average number of scholars during the year, has been 77, and during the last term, one hundred. Meetings for Worship have been regularly held in the house, except during the vacations; and Harmony has been preserved.

"Our Friends Allen and Aliad Wing continue acceptably to occupy the station of Superintendents. Samuel Austin and Joseph H. Aldrich are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Emmeline J. Aldrich, Hannah H. Lee and Elizabeth J. Aldrich in the Girls'. In this arrangement provision is made for Emmeline J. Aldrich to be absent during most of the present term. George F. Read continues to act as book-keeper and teacher of Languages. Charles F. Coffin, jun. Rebecca Chipman and Annabella King have each been employed one term during the past year.

The accounts of the Treasurer & Superintendent have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School has exceeded the expenditures by about 1,500 dollars. Some improvements have been made on the premises and buildings, and others are now in progress, and as much remains to be done, which we deem important for the interests of the Institution, we have not thought it best at this time to propose any change in the prices of admission from those of last year, viz $30 per term for members of this Yearly Meeting; $45 for those who are not members of society, one or both of whose parents are members; and $50 for members of other Yearly Meetings. Books and Stationary to continue to be furnished as at present. We herewith forward a copy of the Superintendent's account for the information of the Yearly Meeting.

The Charitable Fund will support, for the present year, fourteen scholars, one term each. Five having been received since our last report, a balance of income remains due this fund, and Monthly Meetings are requested to forward their applications for this privilege in season for the meeting of the Committee at Providence the 4th of 10th mo. next."

Our late Friend Moses Brown having in his Will

Copy of Superintendent's Jc
1842

Dr. Yearly Meeting's Boarding School in Account with Allen Hoag Superintendent Cr.

1842 4th mo 8th	Amount of expenditure since 4th mo 5th 1841 viz.			1841 4th mo 8	By Balance on settlement	$390.30
	Salaries		$2295.75	1842 4th mo 8th	" Amount received from the Treasurer	5100.—
	" Books and Stationary		284.65		" Do for board and tuition of scholars and for advance taken	5302.70
	" Labor		1345.71		Do received from visitors	7.72
	" Repairs and furniture		1366.22		Do for articles sold	181.25
	Fuel viz. Wood	430.90				
	Hard coal	402.99				
	Charcoal	92.38	926.27			
	Flour		848.01			
	Butter		565.75			
	Cheese		54.99			
	Meat		533.70			
	Fish		36.37			
	Hay, Grain &c.		320.95			
	Bread		272.89			
	Sugar		149.52			
	Molasses		156.38			
	Tea		66.76			
	Coffee		42.44			
	Lamp oil		175.44			
	Vegetables		76.55			
	Rice		33.73			
	Medicine		28.76			
	Soap and Soda		66.85			
	Post office		65.—			
	Articles for Scholars		826.54			
	Money refunded		168.36			
	Incidentals		91.30			
			10.769.41			
	Balance to new a/c		412.56			
			11.181.97			11.181.97

1842 4th mo 8th	Cash on hand	412.56

Error Excepted

(Signed) Allen Hoag Superintendent

1842. Epworth to the Institution 5000 dollars to be appropriated in whole or in part to the purchase of real Estate adjoining the School premises, the Committee have in conformity therewith purchased two tracts of land, about ten acres each at a cost of about the sum above named: a part of which has been paid out of the income of the common fund, the special bequest not being available for this purpose, at the present time.

An examination of the Scholars in the presence of a Committee of our number has taken place at the close of each term, and the evidence we have received of the fidelity of the Teachers and the general diligence and orderly deportment of the Scholars has been satisfactory and encouraging to us — and we feel that we have cause gratefully to acknowledge that the Giver whom proceeds all our blessings, has been pleased to regard this Institution, and to own the concern of Friends in its establishment and continued progress.

On behalf and by direction of the School Committee,
Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

Boarding School, 5th mo. 6th, 1842.

1839. p. 94. 1840. 115. 1841, 143. 146

The account of the Superintendent referred to in the above Report was received and read.

"The Friends now under appointment on the part of this Yearly Meeting as a Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the Boarding School were continued in that service, with the exception of two late Friends Elizabeth Leonard, & Joseph Scattergood, for the ensuing year or till another appointment, to act therein in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting.

In order that Monthly Meetings may make seasonable application to the said Committee of the Boarding School, for the privilege of its Children's Board & Education in the Institution of this Yearly Meeting are requested to forward to the Monthly Meetings, to forward their applications without waiting for the reception of the Report of the School Committee.

George W. Baker, Joseph Wells, Joseph E. Thorne, John Osborne, Caleb Nicholls, and Daniel Tabor, are requested to prepare a summary of the answers to the Queries received at this time, and present it to our next sitting.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 14th.

Friends again assembled according to adjournment.

The Representatives being called, were present as yesterday.

The following information being embraced in the account from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, viz.

"Adam Anthony appealed from the judgment of Providence Monthly Meeting, in a minute of disownment of his right of membership, to this Meeting, in the 3 month 1841, and a Committee was appointed to hear the parties and to report thereon. In the 5th month the Meeting was informed that the Committee was not united in judgment in the case, and an addition was made to the number before appointed,

and

1842. and they were requested to take the subject into further consideration. In the 11th month the Meeting was again informed that the Committee had not agreed upon a report. The Meeting, after consideration, concluded to release them from further attention to it, and the case has been referred to this Meeting. — After a time of deliberation, it was concluded to refer the subject to the consideration and determination of this Yearly Meeting, and to direct information to be communicated to the parties in the appeal, of this conclusion" — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

Daniel Johnson, Jonathan Beede, Paul Wing, Ivory Wing, Howard, Caleb Jones, Nathan Pope, John Osborn, Moses Farnum, Clement, Ratcliff, Hazlehurst, Jonathan Peckham, Varney, William Hill, Noah Purr, and Frederick Hussey were appointed to take said case into consideration, hear the parties interested therein, and report their judgment in the case, at a future sitting.

The consideration of the state of Society was entered upon, by reading the Queries, and Answers to them, rec'd from our several Quarterly Meetings, which were gone through with, — and led to many solid and pertinent remarks on subjects of deficiency therein brought to view, and the language of encouragement was also feelingly held forth to the youth among us, to persevere in the faith that many of them are joining by their solid deportment, that they have chosen for themselves, even the path that leads to peace.

The following Summary, giving the substance of the Answers, is read:

1. All our Meetings for religious Worship and Discipline have been attended with the exception of four small meetings: three of which were occasioned by sickness and inclemency of weather. Three hold on first days have been generally attended by most that are members; mid week Meetings and those for Discipline much neglected by some. The hour is mostly observed. Generally clear of unbecoming behaviour, except a few instances of sleeping. — Some care taken in the above respects. —

2. Love and unity we believe are maintained among Friends with a few exceptions and detraction generally guarded against, though deficiencies are mentioned in most of the Answers. Endeavours are used to end differences. 3. A concern is manifested by most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, and to restrain them reading pernicious Books and from accompanying conversation, and to be examples therein themselves; but much deficiency is apparent with a few in these respects. The Holy Scriptures we believe are frequently read in the families of Friends. 4. We believe Friends are careful, with a few exceptions, in most of which labour has been extended, to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns: other places of public resort not so carefully guarded against by some as would be best. A good degree of moderation appears generally to be observed on the occasions

ordained to. 5. We know not but a few instances of having Children from among Friends. 6. Heads and Heads of families are mostly careful that proceedings with respect to marriages be conformable to discipline: the young and unmarried are not all so careful as would be best. 7. — Friends are careful to maintain our testimonies in these respects, with a few exceptions in which our testimony to a free Gospel ministry has not been fully upheld; and a few cases of a military nature. Some case attended. 8. There appears to be a good degree of care on the minds of most Friends in these respects. We think there is some neglect with a few in the seasonable inspection of affairs & settlement of accounts. 9. Generally exercised as to records. A few removals without Certificate, most of which are under notice. — 10. Care is taken to deal with offenders, though not in all cases so deliberately as would be best; and to publish judgment when it appears necessary according to discipline.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Third-day afternoon.

Again met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the concern of this Yearly Meeting in relation to the Indians located West of the Mississippi, produced the following report:

"To the Yearly Meeting

"The Committee on the concern of this Yearly Meeting in relation to the Indians located West of the Mississippi, report: That they have continued in conjunction with the Committee of New-York Yearly Meeting to give their attention to their appointment, during the past year; and they can now inform this Yearly Meeting that our dear Friends John D. Lang and Samuel Taylor jun^r, under an apprehension of religious duty, have consented to yield themselves to the service of attending to the concern of this and New-York Yearly Meeting, by visiting the Indians in their present localities; and that they propose soon to engage in this undertaking, having therein the full approbation and unity of their Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and of the Committee of both Yearly Meetings: and New-York Yearly Meeting having directed their Clerk to sign on their behalf, and to furnish to our Friends the documents herewith presented, we would propose that they should be supplied with a similar Certificate signed by the Clerk of this Yearly Meeting. On behalf of the Committee,

Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk."

Newport, 6 mo 14, 1842.

which, with the Minutes of New-York Yearly Meeting therein referred to, being read, claimed the solid & sympathetic consideration of the Meeting, and led to a very full expression of the unity of Friends with our dear Friends John D. Lang and Samuel Taylor jun^r in their ardurous undertaking to visit the Indians in their present localities, in conformity with the concern of this and New-York Yearly Meetings, as well as from their own apprehensions of religious duty. — And it was referred

1842

to the Committee on the Correspondence to prepare & forward at a future sitting, an Essay of a suitable document to be furnished to our aforesaid Friends on behalf of this Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the last year, was laid before this Meeting and read. The satisfactory manner directed to the important concerns of Society that have received their attention, was satisfactory to this Meeting, and the Friends now named a Committee, with the addition of our late friend Andrew Ridgeway deceased since last, were continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, or till another appointment be made & known according to the original service and authority given to that Meeting.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth day morning the 13th. Met pursuant to adjournment. The Representative Meeting was again favoured with the solemnizing influence of Truth.

An acceptable Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of Virginia was received and read at this sitting, and was referred to the consideration of the Committee on the Correspondence.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes, produced the following report, viz. "To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee to settle the Treasurer's accounts and for other purposes, report, that they have examined and settled his account, and find a balance in the Treasury due the Meeting of $ 6,66.2. And propose that the sum of $ 1200 be raised for the use of the Meeting the ensuing year. And nominate David Buffum for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m° 14th, 1842. John Osborne."

Which being considered, was satisfactory to the Meeting, and in conformity thereto, David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of $ 1200, the sum proposed to be raised, viz. Rhode Island, 30 0/0. Salem, 12½. Sandwich, 36. Falmouth, 4 3/4. Southfield 12½. Westbloomfield 2. Dover, 6¼. Fairfield, 2.

The Committee appointed by Minute of last year, to sit with Friends at the opening of Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, and also to attend the sittings of Nantucket Quarterly Meeting in the 11th month last, produced the following report, viz.

"A regable to appointment, divers of the Committee attended the sittings of Fairfield & Nantucket Quarterly Meetings in the 11th month last to good satisfaction, and endeavoured such advice and counsel as appeared necessary: and were encouraged to hope the arrangement would prove a benefit to Society. Signed on behalf of the Committee,

John D. Lang,

Newport, 6m° 15. 1842. Mary B. Allen.

Which was satisfactory to this Meeting.

1842

The Committee on the concern of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, reported as follows.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the concern of the Penobscot Indians, report, That they have given their attention, through a portion of their number, to the concerns of that people, since last year, and the usual assistance has been extended to them. It affords the Committee much satisfaction to be able to inform the Yearly Meeting that there is a steady improvement in their condition; they having built the past year, three new dwelling-houses and two barns: and several others being in progress. There is an evident improvement in their manner of living and they continue to increase in numbers; their wheat crop fell short of last year on account of the season; the crops of potatoes, corn, rye and oats exceeding those of the previous year, the potatoe crop amounting to 4,700 bushels. Their neat and other stock having also increased. Should the Y. Meeting continue their care of this people, we would suggest the propriety of some Friend residing a portion of the time with them, particularly during the planting & planting season, believing much use would result to them; if, it should be deemed proper by the Yearly Meeting. We herewith present some account of the Passamaquoddy tribe of Indians, as directed by the Yearly Meeting last year, and would propose that One hundred dollars be appropriated for the benefit of both Tribes.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

John Warren,
John D. Lung.

Newport,
6mo. 15, 1842.

From which it is satisfactory to learn that there has been a steady improvement in their condition, and we are encouraged to believe that the continued care of this Meeting will be useful to them; and the Friends now under appointment were continued in this service, and were requested to extend such further aid to them, during the ensuing year, as way may open for; and were authorised to engage a Friend to reside with them, a portion of the time, as proposed, should way open.

And as part of the Committee having given attention to the concern opened before this Meeting last year, in regard to the Passamaquoddy Tribe, by visiting them at their principal residence on the Eastern bounds of Maine, (see p. 148 of this vol.; also Vol. 3, p. 117, and Vol. 6 p. 600 in ms. p. 97.) by the following addition to the preceding Report, viz.

"A part of the Committee visited the Passamaquoddy Tribe, last Fall. Their general location is at Pleasant Point, on the Eastern border of Maine; but on account of their small means for a living, many of them are absent in Summer for hunting and in Winter for hunting; the latter exposes them to much suffering, and they obtain very little as a reward for their arduous travel and labour, on account of the scarcity of game, which is growing less yearly, in consequence of the great increase of settlements over the usual hunting ground. Their village at Pleasant Point is composed of well constructed framed houses, and from the

1842 the exterior and interior appearance of them. they are endeavouring to live like their white neighbours. They own one township of wild land, and about 90 acres of tillage land at Pleasant Pt — a part of which is well fenced and cultivated. They raise some wheat oats potatoes and hay. They own another piece of land, about two miles distant, of 200 acres. Each Indian has such lots as appointed for him by general consent, provided he fences and improves it within two years, and as long as he continues to keep it fenced and improved. They are generally sompersate: it being stated by the Chief, John Francis, that they know of but three persons among them who used intoxicating drink. The Chief also stated that it was his wish that all his people should turn their attention to Agriculture; and that he had, and should still do all in his power, both by precept and example, to encourage this desirable object. He said that some of them were so poor in the Spring that they could not get seed to plant, and on this and some other accounts were discouraged; and he considered that if we, by like helping them, no way would be more desirable than by furnishing them with seed to plant and sow. They appeared thankful that Friends thought so much of them as to come so far to see them, and hoped they would come again."

We are encouraged to believe that some care to them may also be usefully extended.

And our Treasurer was requested to pay to our friend Stephen Jones, jun. the sum of One hundred Dollars, in furtherance of both these objects, as proposed by the Committee.

The Committee appointed, as by minute of last year, to advise with our friend Anna M. Fontoin in relation to her then proposed religious visit to the Yearly Meeting in London and Ireland, and to some of the Meetings within their limits, made report that they gave the necessary attention to their appointment.

The Committee on the Correspondence was requested to prepare essays of minutes for our friends now with us from abroad, and present them at a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again met.

The following minute on behalf of our beloved Friends, John D. Lang and Samuel Taylor, jun. prepared by the Committee on the Correspondence, as requested yesterday afternoon, was read, and being satisfactory to the Meeting, the Clerk was directed to furnish them with a copy of the same, signed by him on our behalf:

"A concern having for several years rested with weight upon this Yearly Meeting, in conjunction with our brethren of the Yearly Meeting of New York, to inquire into the situation of the various Tribes of Indians residing West of the Mississippi River, in order to ascertain whether any way is open in the Truth, for us to promote their welfare and best good, — and our beloved friends John D. Lang and

1842 James Wanton, jun. Samuel Thurston, have on application of this Quarterly Meeting, given themselves to the service of visiting these people on our behalf. We believe it to be right for us to certify, That they are dear Brethren beloved upon this engagement with our full unity and approbation. We earnestly commend them to the Lord's Holy and sympathizing Protection, of those amongst whom they may be situated; fervently desiring that they may continue from day to day, the fresh evidence and direction of the Great Head of the Church, and be mercifully favoured to be restored in safety to their Friends, when they shall have accomplished the important service to which they are now called.

Signed in behalf and by direction of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held in Rhode Island, from the 12th of the 6th month, to the 16th of the same, inclusive, 1842.

Graham Throgmorton, jun. Clerk.

The Committee appointed on the case of Appeal, as presented to this Meeting by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, produced the following Report,

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee to whom was referred the case from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, respecting Adam Anthony's appeal from the judgment of Providence Monthly Meeting, in the disownment of his right of membership, Report, That we have heard the Appellant, and the Monthly Meeting's Committee, who opposed the case on behalf of the Preparative Meeting, and have given our services and deliberate attention thereto, and are united in opinion that the judgment of Providence Monthly Meeting ought to be confirmed—— which we submit to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting.

Clement Hackliff, Daniel Johnson,
Stephen Jones, jun. Jonathan Beede,
Joseph Varney, Paul Ulling,
William Hill, Ephraim Barnard,
Noah Parr, Caleb Jones,
Frederick Swan, Nathan Pope,
John Osborne,
Moses Varney.

Providence, 6m. 15, 1842.

Which was united with;— and Arnold Congdon and Allen Haines were appointed to inform Adam Anthony that the judgment of Providence Monthly Meeting in his case, is confirmed by this Meeting.— First informing him of his privilege of being present to hear the minutes in his case read, if this should be his choice.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and Individual Members, produced the following Report.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee to visit subordinate meetings and individual members, Report, That we have given attention to our appointment, and have endeavoured to labour in the ability afforded, for the restoration and preservation of love and unity among our members; and have attended a case for

1842. the maintenance of the Christian discipline, testimonies and good order of our religious society; giving such advice to meetings and members as seemed requisite and way opened for; and we believe from existing circumstances that a further extension of care by this Yearly Meeting, through a Committee, is necessary for the welfare and best interests of the Society which we submit.

On behalf of the Committee, Thomas Evans,
Newport, 6th mo. 15, 1842. Anne Purinton."

——— Which being considered, was united with, and the Friends now under appointment were continued to that service for another year; and were desired to labour therein as way may open for it, in the discharge of the duties assigned them as by minute of last year, and report to our next Yearly Meeting.

Essays of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Philadelphia, prepared by the Committee on the Correspondence, were read & approved.

Adjourned to the 11th hour to morrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 16th

Again met, according to adjournment. Representatives present as before.

Arnold Congdon reported that Adam Anthony had been informed of the decision of this Meeting, confirming the judgment of Providence Monthly Meeting, denying him the right of membership. He having declined appearing in the meeting to hear read the minutes thereof, relating to his case.

The Clerk was directed to furnish our Friends now with us from other Yearly Meetings with minutes agreeably to essays presented by the Committee on the Correspondence — signed by him on our behalf.

An essay of an Epistolary Communication addressed to our Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings, and the members thereof, prepared by the Committee on the Correspondence, in conformity with a concern opened in this Meeting yesterday morning, being read, was united with, and the Clerk was directed to have a sufficient number of copies thereof printed to forward to Meetings and members.

do. read, and succeeding pages. —

Essays of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of Ireland, New York, Baltimore, Virginia, Carolina, Ohio and Indiana were presented by the Committee on the Correspondence, and being read, were approved; and the Clerk was directed to have them transcribed, and to sign them on our behalf, together with the essays to London and Philadelphia, and at our next sitting; and forward to those Meetings respectively.

The Clerk was authorized to make any necessary extracts from our minutes not already provided for, & sign them on our behalf.

Having

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Having been favoured during the various sittings of this Yearly Meeting to witness an extension of heavenly favour, under which we have been enabled to transact the important concerns of the Church in near brotherly love and unity; with desires that a sense of the mercies experienced, and the various advice and tender counsel of concerned Friends now offered us, may abide on our minds, we conclude, proposing to meet again on this Island, at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Abraham Shearman jun. Clerk

From our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England,
held on Rhode Island in the 6th. month, 1842.

To the Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings hereunto belonging, and to the Members thereof.

Dear Friends,

Being assembled at our annual Meeting, and graciously permitted to mingle together in sweet fellowship and love, to transact the various concerns of the Church that have come before us, in much harmony and unity; you, dear absent Friends, have been brought very feelingly into remembrance, with desires that you might participate with us in the mercies of which we have been favoured:

Among the interesting and instructive engagements of this Meeting has been the investigation of the state of Society, as presented to us by the answers to the Queries. To the first and very important Query, as to the due attendance of our religious meetings, the answers from all our subordinate meetings has exhibited many deficiencies. This painful truth, that not a few of our members are in the frequent practice of neglecting the attendance of our religious meetings held for the performance of the worship that is due to a Almighty God, the Creator and Preserver of us all, has caused a deep exercise in this meeting.

When we take into view the purpose of those meetings; when we remember our own nothingness, and our entire dependance upon Him whom we are required to wait upon and to worship; when we call to mind that from Him cometh not only our spiritual, but also our temporal blessings; that the earth is His and the fullness thereof, and that He owns the cattle upon a thousand hills; when we are brought to realize that He is an omnipresent King, omniscient and omnipotent too; and that we have no power to command for ourselves any good thing; how can we presume to neglect to present our bodies a living sacrifice unto Him, which, as the apostle saith, is our reasonable service.

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy strength — this is the first and great commandment, and the second is like unto it, viz. Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself; on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. How many comprehensive and full are the practical duties flowing from

1842 to us: and can they claim to be in the fulfilment of these commands who neglect to go up not only willingly but joyfully, to render worship, thanksgiving and praise unto the great and adorable name of the Lord. We have felt strong desires that this very important testimony which our forefathers were enabled to bear, as to the right performance of true spiritual worship, may continue to be faithfully supported by us. However few may be the number of those who meet together; however lonely and solitary we may feel ourselves to be; oh! may we remember His gracious promise remains to be fulfilled unto this day; that where two or three are gathered together in His name, there is He in the midst of them. That we are permitted, under a humbling sense of our wants, to draw near unto the source of all strength and the fountain of all good; and enabled, through the rich extension of mercy, to offer unto the Lord the tribute of acceptable worship, without the necessary intervention of any human instrumentality, is the freedom that we have in Christ Jesus; and calls for deep and fervent gratitude of soul.

And the second commandment is like unto the first? Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Dear Friends, we are made sorrowfully to feel that herein also there is great deficiency with many, and vain is it for us to have sought to observe the first commandment, if we neglect the second.— "If thou love not thy brother, whom thou hast seen, how shalt thou love God whom thou hast not seen?" And if we truly love our brother, we shall not speak evilly of him, nor open a willing ear to the tales of others. We shall be concerned not only to forbear ourselves from every species of detraction, but ready to discourage it in others; that thus in our upright, conscientious discharge of our duty to God and our fellow men, we may be instrumental in removing this great evil from among us.

The preservation of our various Christian testimonies continues to rest with undiminished weight upon us as a people. They are founded on the everlasting, unchangeable Truth, and we cannot, without condemnation, forego their maintenance, or in any way compromise them. The blessed Captain and Author of our Salvation is emphatically called the Prince of Peace. He that commanded his followers to love their enemies, to do good to them that hate them, to pray for those that despitefully use them and persecute them. We are fully persuaded that if our hearts are imbued with the principles of the Gospel, and the precepts of our Lord are received as obligatory upon us, we can in no wise indulge in a spirit of revenge or under any circumstances inflict an injury on our fellowmen. "Brethren, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath— for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Our testimony against all wars and fightings is coeval with the rise of our Society, and its faithful maintenance is a cardinal point which we earnestly entreat our friends in no degree to compromise.

Some deficiency in the full observance of our testimony against the use of spirituous liquors has also been brought to our view, and has caused concern among us. Surely the present is not a day for us to relax our care in this respect, and we entreat our dear Brethren every where to be watchful that they are wholly preserved from so demoralizing and destructive an evil.

Our worthy predecessors were led from a sense of religious duty into a simplicity of dress and address which they believed to be consistent with the Gospel of Christ; and we have been at this season renewedly concerned that this may not be esteemed by any of us a minor testimony, the observance of which we may safely neglect. Nothing is to be esteemed little which the Lord requires of us. The experience of our Society has fully shown that they who have been neglectful in the support of this testimony have declined in other respects; and many have been the instances of individual mourning and deep repentance, when upon a death-bed a sense of unfaithfulness in this respect has pressed upon the mind, and the opportunity had then gone forever for bearing this testimony before men.

On these and various other subjects, beloved Friends, have we been exhorted unto watchfulness at this season, and fervent has been our aspirations that the deficiencies among us may be done away. Seek, dear Friends, to become firmly established and grounded in the faith of the everlasting Gospel; remember that other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, Jesus Christ the righteous; even that foundation upon which the prophets and apostles builded. Be concerned prayerfully to know what it is to be taught from day to day of the Lord: Be diligent in reading the Holy Scriptures which are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith that is in Christ Jesus. In seasons of retirement, retirement, wait often upon the Lord for a renewal of strength.

As this is our individual and united engagement, we do verily believe that a purification will be witnessed to move mightily forward: Zion will be enlarged; her cords lengthened and her stakes strengthened, and Jerusalem become the praise of the whole earth.

And now under a tendering and humbling sense of the goodness of the Lord, mercifully extended to us at this time, affording renewed evidence that He still cares for this people, and is graciously disposed to do them good, we bid you affectionately Farewell — desiring that grace, mercy and peace may extend and abound among us.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Yearly Meeting, by

Jonathan Thurman, Jun. Clerk.

4th mo 18. 1842.

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Epistle

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held on Rhode-Island from the 12th to the 16th, inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1842

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

It is under a fresh and comforting sense of that love which binds together the true followers of the Lamb of God, that we are again engaged to salute you, and to express our fervent desire that grace, mercy & peace may abound among us.

We have been given renewedly to feel, since we have been now assembled at our annual meeting, the exceeding preciousness of that love wherewith God hath loved us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us, and not only so, but that He ever liveth, to make intercession for us, our glorified Mediator at the right hand of the throne of the Father. Reverently bowed & humbled should we be under a sense of the marvellous love and compassionate regard for the children of men, that He remembereth us in our low estate, and condescendeth to hear the cries of the poor and the sighings of the needy, and to arise for their help.

We are renewedly concerned that our members every where may cultivate a sacred regard for the gift of the Holy Spirit; that they may think of it with reverence, and speak of it with holy awe; and be earnestly concerned to shew forth in all their lives that they are under the sure and safe guidance thereof. How overwhelming and confirming is the truth, that He whose attributes are wholly beyond our finite comprehension, who inhabiteth the Heaven of Heavens, doth thus marvellously condescend to teach us directly by his own Holy Spirit, to make known his gracious will in the secret of the soul, to lead in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. — As these all important truths come to have place in our hearts, being made sensible of our situation before God, of our need of regeneration, we are made willing to submit to the purifying and cleansing operations of Him who baptizeth with the Holy Ghost and with fire. As we become established in the fundamental doctrines of the true Redeemer, and practical followers of Him, we shall be found faithfully maintaining the various Christian testimonies which, more or less distinguish us as a people; which we continue firmly to believe we are not at liberty in any degree to forego. The Truth is unchangeable, and they that walk in it can never compromise it; And how are those who are thus honestly engaged to support it, brought

into

1842 into close union one with another; their hearts are filled with true love, and and the fruits of the Spirit, "Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance," are abundantly manifest.

We have received at this time your acceptable Epistle of last year, and have been comforted thereby. Very precious is the reflection that we are bound together as one people, whose watchword is, that we are concerned to hold fast the same Faith, to walk by the same rule, and to mind the same thing.—

Our Yearly Meeting has been largely attended, and a lively interest has been manifest among us for the preservation of our ancient principles and testimonies; that we may continue to pursue the good old way in which our Fathers walked.

The subject of Slavery to which you allude in your Epistle, we can inform you continues to engage our solid and anxious consideration, and under, as we believe, an opening in the Truth, our Meeting for Sufferings has this year issued a document in relation thereto, addressed to the professors of Christianity in the Southern States and elsewhere, which has been extensively circulated among Slave holders and others. A concern for the Aborigines of our country has also been for many years prevalent with us, under which we have extended some care to the Penobscot tribe of Indians within our limits; and the report of our Committee at this time, has been very encouraging, indicating a gradual improvement among them, and some increase of their number. To the Passamaquaddy tribe we have also during the past year extended some attention, and believe there is an opening to do them good. And with a view to inquire into the situation and habits of the various tribes located East of the Mississippi River, we have, in connection with our brethren of New York Yearly Meeting, encouraged two of our beloved Friends, who from an apprehension of religious duty have been made willing to yield themselves to the service, to make them a visit, to render them such advice as way may open for, and to ascertain in what manner we may be instrumental in doing them good.

With the salutation of love we are Your Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Through the continued mercy of our Heavenly Father we have been again permitted to assemble together for the transacting of the affairs of the Church, and although in looking forward to the approach of this Meeting, many of the baptized members thereof were clothed with fears, yet we feel found with grateful hearts to acknowledge, that He who has promised to be strength in weakness and riches in poverty, has condescended to be near, solemnizing our minds, and overshadowing us with his love.

1842. Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received at this time, together with Epistolary communications from other Yearly Meetings, in the reading of which our distant brethren have been brought feelingly to our remembrance, and a renewed evidence has been felt that however widely we may be situated from each other, we are one people, that One is our Master, even Christ, and all of us are brethren.

We can truly say with you, that we deem it an invaluable favour to be preserved in sincerity upon the fundamental principles of our Society as handed down to us by our worthy predecessors, who were enabled by the light of Christ, to see their entire accordance with Scripture truth. Our distinguishing feature in these principles is, that they remain ever the same; and in addressing you at the present time, we have no new doctrines to set forth; and we feel thankful that notwithstanding the many close trials and provings, to which our Society has at various times been subjected, there are yet preserved among us, a living remnant of those we humbly trust there are not a few, who are concerned for the support of these principles, and who are earnestly engaged to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. May these, whom their lot may be cast, be encouraged to build on their way, and while at times and seasons they may be clothed with sackcloth & mourning, yet may they remember that they have the gracious promise that those who go forth weeping, shall return rejoicing; bringing their sheaves with them.

We have been at this time renewedly impressed with the importance of daily reading the Holy Scriptures, particularly in families, and fervent have been our desires that Friends every where may be stimulated to faithfulness therein; that they may endeavour in the fear of the Lord to encourage those under their care to diligence in the perusal of these sacred records, with a watchful eye to the openings of the Light of Christ, that the truths therein contained may be effectually sealed upon their minds. And dear Friends, may mind of we that the suggestions of the enemy, was he permitted to call in question their divine authority.

We believe the present is a time which calls for great care and discrimination, with regard to the reading which is in circulation in the world; some of which under the plausible pretence of promoting the work of moral reform, is we fear calculated to rob man of his only hope, that of salvation through a crucified Saviour. Many indeed are the specious related theories abroad among mankind; but the way of the cross remains to be the only way to the crown. Let us then, dear Friends, be concerned to live from day to day in that state of humble dependence upon our Holy Head, whereby our understandings may become illuminated to see the approaches of the adversary in his most subtle transformations. May we earnestly desire in abasedness of Spirit to know what is the

1842. Lord's will concerning us, and fervently petition him for ability to perform it. "Then shall we be preserved from the snares of the enemy, and from making us a city set on a hill that cannot be hid."

The subject of Slavery and the Slave trade has during the past year occupied the serious attention of our Meeting for Sufferings, and has resulted in publishing an address to the Christian professors in the Southern States and elsewhere, upon this iniquitous system.

With the salutation of love, we remain, Your Friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the fourth month last has been received at this time, together with Epistolary communications from other Yearly Meetings; in the reading of which our distant brethren have been brought feelingly to our remembrance, and desires have been begotten in our hearts that we may become instrumental in building one another up in the most holy faith, and in settling and establishing one another in the principles of the Gospel.

In reviewing the state of Society at the present time, we may acknowledge with you, that we have been clothed with mourning on account of the deficiencies existing among us, and of the want of a deeper religious concern for the support of our ancient principles and testimonies; yet we are encouraged in the belief, that there are preserved a living remnant who are concerned for the removal of every hurtful thing from within our borders, and who are earnestly engaged to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. In the baptisms & travail of spirit into which we have at this time been introduced, we have believed that a disregard of the first and great commandment has been the primary cause of the weaknesses among us. "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment; and the second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." And our blessed Saviour declared, that on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. We believe that it was through the operation of this pure law upon the heart, that our worthy predecessors in the Truth were constrained to withdraw themselves from the various denominations of professing Christians with whom they were associated, and were strengthened to bear a public testimony to the spirituality of the religion of our Holy Redeemer. But, dear Friends, it is our earnest desire, that the spiritual views held by them of this pure religion

1842 may in the present day be maintained inviolate by us; that the precious testimonies into which they were led in the fear of the Lord, may be supported by us and transmitted to our children unsullied by the contrivance of man. But we have a subtle and unwearied adversary to contend with, who is ever seeking to lay waste and destroy; — and we have at this time evidently desired, that if Satan on the one hand, he may not be permitted to draw us aside from the simplicity of the Truth in which they walked, on the other hand he may not, under the specious pretext of pursuing primitive principles, sow the seeds of jealousy, discord, and distrust within our borders. Watchfulness, humiliation and prayer have been the safe-guards of the faithful, the Lamb-in every age. It was under a deep sense of this that the Royal Psalmist poured forth his fervent petition, "Set a watch before my mouth and keep the door of my lips;" and as we are concerned day by day, to live in this holy fear looking unto Him and Him alone, for renewed ability to keep his commandments, we shall be preserved in that state of true humility, in which our conversation will be such as becometh the Gospel of Christ. — "Let," saith the Apostle, "no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." — "And be ye kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Patience, faith, and quietness of mind all exercised in the fear of God, with prayer and supplication unto Him, through our adorable Saviour! These, beloved Friends, were desire may be the watch words of this day. Let us be concerned in abasedness of spirit, to keep to them. — Then shall we be qualified to judge righteous judgment, and become each other's helpers in the Lord.

The situation of the coloured population held in cruel bondage in some parts of this land, has claimed the deliberate consideration of our Meetings for sufferings the past year, and has resulted in publishing an address to the professors of Christianity in the southern states and elsewhere, on the subject of Slavery and the Slave Trade.

The condition of the Tribes of Indians West of the Mississippi still continues to claim the attention of this and New-York Yearly Meeting. And our Committee whom this concern have at this time informed the Meeting, that they have accepted the services of two Friends who feel their minds drawn to make them a visit in order to ascertain more definitely their situation, and to place the Committee in possession of such information as will enable them to judge of the most eligible manner of carrying out the concern of the two Yearly Meetings.

Our Meeting has at this time been favoured with the sweet silence of truth, in which we have been united with an evidence that notwithstanding our many short comings,

We

1843 the Lord's Hand of the Church still overshadowed to be gracious, and to condescend thus unto His low & no good but they know nothing of their own; and who look unto him for all their fresh supplies. To Him be all the praise who alone can keep us from falling.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting.

by Abraham Shearman jun^r Clerk

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to New York.

Dear Friends,

We are again permitted to salute you in the love of the Gospel, and we have been made sensibly to feel by the reading of your Epistle, & by the rest this time, that this love is by you fully reciprocated.

We have during our several sittings in this Yearly Meeting earnestly craved that not any ourselves but you also, and all that love the Lord Jesus may continue to wear this badge of discipleship — "Son, one to another" — that all may know that we have "passed from death unto life."

Though sensible of our infirmities and "backslidings, yet we have through mercy been favoured to feel the canopy of Divine love to be over us, and the arm of Ancient Goodness to be underneath — whereby we are again enabled to lift up our heads in hope, and in humble confidence to put our trust in Him who is strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present help in time of need.

We feel concerned to recommend to our brethren here and elsewhere, that they be punctual in the attendance of their religious Meetings; that they suffer not the encroachments of the world to hinder them from steadily observing the (apostolic injunction — "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together." Most fully do we believe that a neglect to attend our religious meetings will tend to draw our minds from the Truth, and to produce spiritual weakness, and a discouragement, & darkness of our understandings. We feel also much desire that all our dear Friends of every station may be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, — so that we may not become withered, but grow and flourish as trees bearing fruit, that the end may be everlasting life.

We feel deeply solicitous that all may be concerned to mind the leadings of the witness for God in our hearts, and thereby be preserved in the narrow way that leadeth unto life; that no root of bitterness springing up, trouble us, or retard our progress heaven-ward.

Unto which Rock, dear Friends, to the dust of the pit whence we were digged, and to the rock whence we were hewn, it behoveth us to remember that the weight was not in us, but that it was the Lord who laid help upon One that was mighty, that it is in Him we are brought this great salvation for us; that it is in Him

we

1842. are still live, move, and have our being, and that without Him we can do nothing. Under a sense of this our dependence upon our Heavenly Father, we feel bound thankfully to acknowledge his loving kindness towards us in that He is still pleased, we humbly trust, to own us as his children.

Our Meeting has been fully attended, and we have been favoured with the company of a large number of our dear young Friends, whose deportion & encouragement is to believe that they are being prepared for usefulness in the church of Christ.

We have again at this time been feelingly introduced into a lively concern for the welfare of the Indians located West of the Mississippi, and much unity and sympathy was expressed with our Friends who have resigned themselves to the important and arduous undertaking of visiting them in their present location, and we earnestly desire that they may be enabled through the assistance of Him whose tender mercies are over all his works, to carry out our motives concern to the satisfaction of Friends and the peace of their own minds.

Finally, Brethren, with desires that we may all be enabled so to run as to obtain the prize, we bid you Farewell,

and remain, Your Friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, jun: Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends.

Through the mercy of our Heavenly Father we have been permitted in this our annual assembly to partake, both immediately and instrumentally of the refreshing streams that issue from the precious fountain of life and love; and have been enabled, in transacting the various concerns that have come before us, to labour together in the fellowship of the Gospel.

"Where in deep abasement we remember our own unworthiness — while we sympathise with you in your distressed condition — our hearts are consoled by the reflection, that the same God over all is nigh unto all that call upon him; that he still manifests, regards his people, and continues to verify his promise — "Where two or three are gathered together in my Name, there am I in the midst of them."

We sympathised with you in commiseration of those who are still held in Slavery. May we in all our movements, not only on account of our fellow-men in outward bonds, but for those also who are in bondage to the prince of the power of the air, be increasingly actuated by that spirit which clothed the early believers, and enabled them to continue in prayer without ceasing; remembering that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. That this gathering to the house of

1842 forget, we may witness a qualification to do what our hands find to do, not only to our own peace, but to the glory of God.

We are informed by the report of our Committee on the concern of the Indians, that two of the members of this Yearly Meeting have been set at liberty by their respective Monthly and Quarterly Meetings to visit the Indians west of the Mississippi, under an apprehension of duty, in accordance with the concern of this and New York Yearly Meetings, in which they have received the full unity and sympathy of this body.

In several of the Epistolary communications received at this time, the interesting and we hope increasing concern for the guarded education of the youth of our Society, is adverted to in a manner that has met with a feeling response in many minds, — and we have felt strong desires that this interesting subject may continue to claim the serious attention of Friends. That as we are thus engaged under the qualifying power of Truth, our sons may become as plants grown up in their youth, our daughters, as corner stones polished after the similitude of a palace.

Our Meeting has been large and we are comforted in the belief that many amongst the dear young men now present, have in love submitted to the purifying operation of Divine grace as to enable them to join with their elders in the exercise and concern for the welfare of Zion and the enlargement of her borders, and to partake in common, measure of that sweet communion and fellowship, which, through adorable mercy, has been permitted to flow unto us from the presence of the Lord, unto whom alone be the praise.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Virginia.

Dear Friends,

Through the renewed mercy of our Heavenly Father we are again permitted to meet in this our annual assembly, and we desire, that as one people, united in the most holy Faith, we may be enabled to do all to the honour of Him, to whom alone honour is due.

We feel that He who is the Author and Finisher of the saints' faith has not forgotten to be gracious; but that in the abundings of his mercy, he has condescended at this time to be near us, and to strengthen us.

We have received your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last, and have been feelingly drawn into sympathy with you on account of the many discouragements that are gathered around you; — but we believe that if you abide faithfully under the shadow of the Divine presence the waters of affliction will flow back, and you will be enabled upon the banners of deliverance to blaze the name of the Lord.

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The condition of the poor oppressed Africans has been feelingly brought to our remembrance at this time, by an address to professing Christians, which our Meeting for Sufferings has felt drawn to put forth; and a deep concern is felt that Friends may attend to every opening in the Truth, to labour for their deliverance, until that happy day shall arrive, when mercy and love shall abound in the earth, when every bond shall be broken, and the oppressed go free. We are glad to learn that you have a feeling concern for the recognition of the rights of this much injured people, and in every effort on their behalf may the Lord be with you.

The condition of the Aborigines of our country has also claimed our serious consideration. And the reports from the Committee extending some care over the few Indians within our limits, have encouraged us in the hope that our labours have been blessed.

The united concern of this and New-York Yearly Meeting, with regard to the Indian Tribes west of the Mississippi, has enlisted in the exercising travail of our dear Friends in the prospect of a visit among them under an apprehension of religious duty; hoping that some means may be devised by which we may do something for this much injured and suffering people.

We have been cheered at this time by the company of many of our young Friends; and the Parents in the Church have been strengthened in the hope that others will be raised up to maintain our testimonies when they shall have passed away.

Finally, Brethren, Farewell; and may the abounding influence of that which is the Seal of the Christian's hope — love to God, and love to man — continue to bind us together in holy Christian fellowship.

By direction and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk

To North-Carolina.

Dear Friends,

We have again been permitted to meet in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, in which, thro' the unmerited mercy of our Holy Redeemer, we have been favoured with a renewed spiritual strength, from an humbling sense afforded, that the Lord is still pleased to own us as a Church, and we believe that He who called us to be a people, and has manifested his goodness towards us, in the preservation of our society amidst the various trials to which it has been exposed, will continue to uphold us, as in the faithful maintenance of our Christian testimonies, we strive to walk worthy of the vocation whereunto we are called.

Our

Our Meeting this year has been large, and we have been favoured to transact the business that has come before us in much harmony and brotherly love. We have had the company of a large number of our youth; many of whom manifest a becoming interest in the concerns of the Church; evincing it to be their daily travail that their hearts are tendered with the love of Christ. And we greatly desire that this interesting object, both among you and us, may fully submit to the baptizing power of the Truth, so graciously extended to them; that thus they may become prepared to fill the various stations for which they are designed, to the peace of their own minds, and the comfort of their friends.

Your Epistle of 11th mo last has been received; the reading of which, with similar communications from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, brought our absent brethren afresh to our remembrance, in the feeling of that love by which we are to be known as the disciples of Christ; under the unfeigned desire of which we were united to rejoice that while we are willing scattered, we are but one people "called in one hope of our calling."

By the report of the Committee it appears that our Boarding School is in successful operation. We believe this Institution has been a blessing to many of our members, by having afforded them an opportunity of acquiring an education consistent with our Christian profession, by having afforded them an opportunity of acquiring an education consistent with our Christian profession by which their attachment to our Society and its precious principles and testimonies has been preserved, and they prepared for usefulness. The proper education of our Youth is a subject in which we feel ourselves deeply concerned; and were glad to learn from your Epistle, that you are still engaged in the promotion of this desirable object. Notwithstanding the education of our children in our Boarding Schools may subject us to some increased exertion & pecuniary additional expense, yet we are in this way bestowing upon them a treasure of greater value than gold or silver.

The afflicted condition of the African race continues to claim our sympathy, and a desire to improve every right opening to plead the cause of this deeply injured people: and our Meeting for Sufferings has recently issued a document of the Southern States and elsewhere.

upon the subject of Slavery, addressed to Christian professors

The Penobscot tribe of Indians towards whom we have for several years been extending some aid, continue to make some advancement in the comforts of civilization: and our Yearly Meeting in connection with the Yearly Meeting of New-York having for several years felt a concern to promote the general welfare of the Indian tribes West of the Mississippi, two of our Friends have been made willing, under a sense of religious duty,

1842. to endeavour to advance this concern, by performing a visit to their parts, to inquire into their situation; and with the faithful of Friends they propose soon to engage in this important service.

With a salutation of love, we remain,
Your Friends and Brethren,
Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting, by
Wm. Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of the 9th mo. last, with similar communications from all the other Y.M. Meetings with which we are in correspondence, has been received, together with the General Epistle from London. We have been made renewedly sensible, at this time, of the value of this kind of interchange of sentiment with our dispersed brethren; and can cordially unite in the views expressed by you, that these salutations do, indeed, have a tendency to strengthen the bonds of religious fellowship, and, in their issue from the vital springing of life, are as a breath by the way to them who mourn in Zion, and to the living hearth in Jerusalem.

Our Meeting has been large, and much harmony and brotherly love have been apparent in transacting the business which has come before us, so that we cherish a hope, that our assembling together has not been in vain, but profitable to us, and an acceptable offering to the Head of the Church.

In the accounts from our several Quarterly Meetings we notice many deficiencies in the support of our Christian testimonies, and though we may feel as a people in some measure cast down, yet we trust that we are not forsaken, and we humbly hope and believe that there are yet among us a living remnant, who are concerned "earnestly to contend for the faith once delivered to the Saints," and we earnestly desire that all who have been the cause of the manifest deficiencies that exist in various parts of our Society, would solemnly consider the consequences of their unfaithfulness in neglecting the testimonies which were given our early Friends to bear, and for which they suffered so much. We believe the peculiar testimonies, which we as a people, have been called upon to hold up to the world, bind them up in the unchangeable Truth, and that they have had a benign influence on the condition of man far more extensive than the limits of our own Society; and that if ever we were instructed they should be cast off of transient duration, and if we prove ourselves unfaithful to the trust thus committed to us, doubtless, others will be called, as from the highways and hedges, who will be qualified to stand valiantly for this cause.

It is

1842. It is gratifying to us to learn that the guarded education of children continues to be a subject of solicitude and attention amongst you. That your efforts on this account have a blessing to all who may be within your influence, believing that the judicious and wise plans of the rising generation cannot much on our future welfare, particularly as the benefits of a rightly guarded education. It appears, by the report of your Standing School Committee, that the Institution remains in a flourishing condition, and, as we believe it has been, so we trust it will continue to be, in the Divine hand, a blessing to many of our youth.

Much exercise and sympathy, on account of the sufferings of the Africans, have been manifested at this time, and, we trust a deep and abiding interest is felt, to embrace every right opening to extend a helping hand to ameliorate their condition, and to convince our fellow-men, throughout our country, of the enormity and wickedness of the whole system of Slavery.

A lively interest has been manifested in this meeting, for the welfare of our Indian brethren, especially those residing West of the Mississippi; and two of our members, under a sense of religious duty, have engaged the present Spring to visit the several Tribes there located, with the expectation of their, to believe, Monthly and Quarterly Meetings. Much unity and sympathy was felt and expressed for them in their present arduous engagement, and they were encouraged to pursue it in the openings of Truth.

The Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indians, residing in the State of Maine, continue to be objects of our concern. By an interesting report of our Committee on this subject, read at this time, we have reason to believe, that the care extended to them by this Meeting has been productive of good; and we are encouraged still to continue our attention to them.

"If the desire for our mutual increase & growth in the Truth, as it is in Jesus Christ our Lord, we remain, with the salutation of love, your Friends and Brethren.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

By Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

We desire reverently to acknowledge the mercy and condescending goodness of our Heavenly Father, in permitting us poor and unworthy as we are, again to meet in this our annual assembly, for the solemn and interesting purpose of waiting upon his great and worthy Name, and for transacting the weighty concerns of the Church; upon the rightordering of which the prosperity of our Society very much depends. And may we at all times earnestly crave that wisdom which is from above and profitable to direct, without which we cannot experience a right qualification to labour in the Lord's cause.

We

We ardently desire that all our members wherever situated, may be preserved in that love, which is the sure and distinguishing badge of discipleship; for thereby, said our Blessed Lord, shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one unto another. May we all be earnestly engaged to keep the Christian injunction, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." This will induce in us a spirit of watchfulness, even unto prayer, that the truly humble and devoted travellers Zion would at times be permitted to experience the refreshing of the weary soul.

P. Our Meeting for Sufferings has since our last Y^r Meeting, issued an Appeal to the Professors of Christianity in the Southern States and Slave holding parts of the poor and suffering Slave, and we earnestly desire that Friends every where may be kept alive to the subject, & embrace every opening in the Truth to labour in this interesting concern. But may we on all occasions remember the declaration of our blessed Lord. "Without me ye can do nothing." By which it is evident that we cannot in our own wills & strength however anxious we may feel, promote his cause. And we cordially respond to the sentiment in your Epistle, that as we are concerned to wait upon the Lord, he will vouchsafe to us the aid of his Holy Spirit. How we are daily needed to be kept in this humble, waiting frame of mind, we believe we should be religiously engaged, faithfully to maintain all our Christian testimonies, and should feel the necessity of great watchfulness and care, how far we connect ourselves with associations, which however laudable may be the objects they are intended to promote, are from the manner in which they are conducted, liable to lead to a compromise of some of some of those precious principles and testimonies which we have always felt ourselves called upon, in the fear of the Lord, to maintain. We believe it to be invariably the case, when members of our Society have deviated from our well known principles of Godliness & the teaching of the Holy Spirit in performing their religious duties, that they have gradually departed from the maintenance of our Christian testimonies, & their coldness and indifference have increased and until they have lost their love for those whom they once held in high esteem.

Our Committee who have the care of the Seneca Tribe of Indians, have made a favourable report, by which it appears that the condition of this Tribe is steadily improving; and we feel encouraged to continue our aid to them as heretofore: and also to extend some care and assistance to the Pottawamaddy Tribe.

This Meeting still feels a deep interest for the Indians residing West of the Mississippi and our committee, in connexion with one from New-York Yearly Meeting, have employed the services of two Friends of this Meeting, who, under an apprehension of duty, have felt willing to visit them in their present locations, in order to

1842 ascertain more fully their situation, and in what way Friends may be most useful to them.

Our Meeting has been largely blessed and we feel bound gratefully to acknowledge the Master's presence during the various sittings thereof, which has indeed been strength in weakness and help in time of need; that notwithstanding the accusers of the Brethren may be industriously endeavouring to lay waste our goodly heritage, we have renewedly felt the consoling assurance that the Lord is still mindful of his people, and that his promise is verified in the experience of all his faithful followers, "That they who wait upon Him shall renew their strength; they shall mount upward on wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; walk and not faint." And, dear young Friends, the exhortation of our unfeigned love is to you, on whose shoulders must ere long devolve the concerns of the Church, when the fathers and mothers who have long borne the burden and heat of the day, shall be called from works to rewards. May you be willing to submit your necks to the yoke of Christ, which will restrain you from following after the contaminating things of this world, and enable you to walk in the straight and narrow path that leadeth unto life. Finally, brethren, farewell, Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, jun'r Clk

1843.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth on First-day, 11th of 6th month, 1843, and at Newport for Discipline on 2d day morning, the 12th.

When accounts being received from our several Quarterly Meetings, the Friends therein named as Representatives to this Meeting were;

For Rhode-Island, Thomas Anthony, Richard Gurney, Edmund Thrasher, John Meader, Moses Brooks, Thomas Moreland, Wm Jenkins, David Buffum, Salem, Esther Newhall, Abijah Johnson, Matthew Purinton, Edward Gove, Moses Brown, Jonathan Peckham, Nathan Bond of Lynn, Micajah B. Pratt, Ephm Thompson, Wm H. Chase, Uriah B. Rogers, Sandwich, Jonathan Allen, Daniel Davis, George Moreland, Paul Wing, Francis Tucker, Isaac N. Tifford, John Macomber, Moses H. Jones, Isaac Pabody, Falmouth, Stephen Jones, Caleb Jones, Nathan Jenks, Samuel Jones, John W. Mitchell, Dartmouth, John Milton Earle, Daniel Slocum, Matthew Chase, James H. Gay, Smith Batty, Westport, Silas Jones, Nathan Manvel, Samuel Foster, Stephen Jones, jun'r, James Pope, Cornelius Douglas, Isaac Lowe, Mary Thompson, Wm Hill, Silvas Meader, John D. Sanford, Charles Hazard, Isaac Douglas, Wm Parr, Ephraim C. Swan, Sam'l Taylor, jun'r

Whose names being called, they were all present, except our friend from Rhode Island, and an Elder from Salem, for whose absence satisfactory reasons were assigned.

Our beloved friends Isaac Thorn of Nine Partners, Wm. Hoag, Stock of New York, John Hill, of Pelham, Wm. Hoag, Upper Canada, Isaac Lee, Asst. of Greenwich, Wm. Hoag, Pennsylvania, Samuel Cope, of Bradford, Wm. Hoag, Pennsylvania, Ebenezer Roberts of Chester, Wm. Hoag, New Jersey, and Benjamin Hoyle, of Short Creek, Wm. Hoag, Ohio, being now in the attendance of this Meeting — Testimonials of the unity of their Friends with their ministry and present religious engagements were produced and read. Our friends John Thorn, an Elder of Nine Partners Monthly Meeting, to be accompanied in his future visit. Hallock Jay, of New York, companion to John Hill, Hezekiah Bailey, an Elder of Rahway, Wm. Hoag, Pennsylvania, companion to Isaac Lee, Seth Hopkins of Chester Monthly Meeting New Jersey, companion to Ebenezer Roberts, and William Evans an Elder of Millville, Wm. Hoag, Ohio, companion to Benjamin Hoyle, produced unanimity of their respective Monthly Meetings expressive of their unity with them in their services.

The London General Epistle of the past year was received and read; and we have much desired that the interesting subjects therein brot into view, and the affectionate and brotherly counsel contained the body at large in regard to the faithful maintenance of our principles and testimonies, may deeply impress the minds of all our members. An acceptable communication from the same Meeting addressed to this; with one from Ireland, and from the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, with which we have correspondence, excepting those of Virginia and Carolina, were also received and read at this time.

John P. Jones, Thomas Howland, John Osborne, James Boyd, Peter Peters, Samuel Boyer, Jacob Roberts, Wm. H. Chase, Joseph Hoag, Charles F. Coffin, Samuel Taylor, jun. Daniel Jones, Jonathan T. Norris, George W. Bates, ~~John~~ John, Milton Earle, Wm. Jenkins, George Howland, Joseph Wetherill, Daniel Taber, John Paige, jun. Rowland Green, Hezekiah Johnson, John Meader, Moses H. Rhodes, and Mary Thompson — were desired to take said Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, to prepare Essays of communications to those Meetings respectively, to present them at a future sitting or sittings; and if, way opens for it, to the Yearly Meetings of Virginia & Carolina.

The Auditors have accounts rec'd from several Quarterly Meetings, but one of them has paid; and they have given direction for the payment to our Treasurer, of their respective proportions of Stock, as directed last year. — William Reynolds, Micajah C. Pratt, George W. Barker, Caleb Jones, Smith Bailey, Edmund Cater, Mary Thompson, and

1843. David Douglass was appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts; also to consider of, and propose at a future sitting, a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year; and to propose a Treasurer.

We are informed by accounts from their respective Quarterly Meetings, that Rhode Island has united with N. England M°. Meeting, in the appointment of Ann Hopkins to the station of an Elder; that Salem has united with New York M°. Meeting in the appointment of Abigail Bunting; and that Smithfield has united with Westbridge M°. Meeting in the appointment of Ruth Earle to the same station; that Falmouth has united with Durham M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Phebe J. Douglass; that Vassalboro' has united with China M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Rachel H. Jones, and with the same M°. Meeting in the appointment of Jonathan Estes to the station of an Elder; and that Fairfield has united with St. Albans M°. Meeting in approving the public ministry of Martha Mayhew, with Litchfield in approving the public ministry of Mary B. Pinkham; and also with the same Meeting in the appointment of Eunice Fish to the station of an Elder.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met pursuant to adjournment.

New England Record on behalf of the Representatives informed the Meeting, that they had been together, and had united in proposing Thomas Thomson, jun. as Clerk, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, as assistant Clerk of this Meeting for the year ensuing; which being approved, they were appointed to those services accordingly.

The Minutes of this Meeting for the past year were read.

The Annual Report of the Committee of this Meeting having the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence, was produced and read; and the language of encouragement was feelingly held forth to the Committee, to persevere in their efforts for the right education of the children and youth of the Society, under a persuasion that a blessing will attend their faithful labours therein. And the Report being satisfactory to Friends, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly & M°. Meetings.

The account of the Superintendent was also produced, and a summary of its various items laid before the Meeting.

The Friends now under appointment on the part of this Meeting, as a Committee for the Government and Superintendence of the Boarding School, were continued in that service for the ensuing year, or till another appointment, to act therein in conjunction with a Committee of the Women's Meeting.

[For Report of the B. S. Committee, see over.]

1844

1843.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Boarding School Committee report. That they have endeavoured during the past year to discharge the duties confided to them in superintending the various concerns of the Institution. The average number of scholars during the year, has been sixty, and during the Winter term, one hundred and nine. Meetings for divine worship have been regularly held in the House, except during the times of the vacations; and Harmony has prevailed.

Our friends Allen and Clive Ming continue to fill acceptably the station of Superintendents. Jonathan L. Slocum, and Samuel Austin are employed as Teachers in the Boys' School and Emmeline A. Aldrich and Elizabeth J. Aldrich in the Girls'. Charles F. Coffin, jun. is engaged to take charge of the accounts, and to have the care of the Boys out of School hours. George F. Read, Joseph W. Aldrich and Elizabeth H. Pope have severally been employed as Teachers during the past year.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Superintendent have been settled, by which it appears that the receipts of the School during the past year, have been $11,280.48 1/100; its expenditures, $12,305 87/100; a part of which was derived from the funds on hand at the close of the last year. This amount includes the sum of $3116 72/100 that have been appropriated to repairs and improvements; especially in erecting a building for a wash-house, and in making a substantial wall around a part of the Farm. For details we refer to a copy of the Superintendent's Report presented.

We would propose that the price for board and tuition be continued the same as last year viz. $30 per term for members of this Yearly Meeting; $45 for children who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members of society, and $50 for those of other Yearly Meetings. Books and Stationary being furnished, as at present. Arrangements are made for giving instruction in the Latin & Greek languages, to the Boys, and in the French, to the Girls, when their parents desire it, for which was proposed, that the additional sum of $5 per term, should be paid.

The income of the Charitable Fund for the next year, it is estimated, will support twelve scholars, three each, and a Monthly Meeting is particularly desired to forward their applications in season for the meeting of the Committee, at the School, 3d of 10th month next. As this is the last meeting of the Committee previous to the commencement of the winter term, it is necessary that applications should be seasonably forwarded in order to avoid disappointment.

The original design of the Yearly Meeting in the establishment of the Boarding School being to provide for the religious guarded education of the youth of our society, it has ever been a prominent concern with the Com-

Copy of Superintendent's
account

Dr. Yearly Meeting Boarding School in account with Allen Hoag Superintendent Cr.

1843			1842		
4th mo 8	To Amt of expenditures since 4th mo 8th 1843 viz		4th mo 8th	By balance on settlement	$412.56
	Salaries	$2480.85	1843-4th mo 8th	Amt received from the Treasurer	6400.—
	Books and Stationary	226.41		Dr for board and tuition of	
	Labor	1454.93		Scholars and advances to them	5685.48
	Repairs and Furniture	3116.57		Amt received for articles sold	126.98
	Fuel viz wood 383.19			Dr from visiters	4—
	Charcoal 92.74				
	Anthracite Coal 322.42 =	798.35			
	Flour	736.94			
	Butter	432.57			
	Cheese	48.86			
	Meat	506.40			
	Fish	42.89			
	Hay, Grain &c	254.65			
	Bread	241.56			
	Sugar	186.86			
	Molasses	111.91			
	Tea	46.45			
	Coffee	40.11			
	Lamp Oil	148.62			
	Vegetables	116.50			
	Rice	18.82			
	Medicines	31.94			
	Soap and Soda	69.53			
	Post Office	38.85			
	Articles for Scholars	895.76			
	Money refunded	168.20			
	Incidentals	91.04			
		$12,305.31			
	Balance to new account	323.51			
		$12,629.02			$12,629.02

1843 - 4th mo 8th Cash on hand $323.51

(Signed) Allen Hoag Superintendent

1843 mittee to promote this truly desirable end; and they are encouraged and comforted in believing, that there are many in different parts of this Y.M. Meeting, who have found in this Institution the means of obtaining a useful education, in good degree free from the contaminating influences of the world. In order to preserve it a select and safe school for our children, we feel it to be necessary to insist that the careful guards which from time to time have been adopted by this Y.M. Meeting, in relation to the admission of scholars, should be faithfully maintained; and we think it right at this time to revise some of their regulations, and to solicit Friends strictly to observe them.

First. Every M.M. Meeting is desired to have a Committee especially appointed for the purpose of granting certificates to all children both male and female whom they may consider suitable to enter the School; and parents are requested in every case, when desiring to send a child to the School, to make reasonable application to such Committee, in order to obtain their Certificate.

Second. No male scholar, over fourteen years of age, can enter the School without previously obtaining permission so to do from the sub-committee, who meet on 3d day before the last 5th day, in every month; and a certificate from the M.M. Meeting's Committee must be produced in these as well as in other cases.

Thirdly. It is particularly requested that Committees in granting certificates will exercise a care that children being no clothing to the School unsuitable to be worn on account of plainness: and that they give evidence of a disposition to conform to the rules of the School, and to demean themselves in an orderly and consistent manner; which should be expressed in the certificate.

Fourth. No Scholar can enter the School for a less time than one term, without the consent of the sub-committee; and when under peculiar circumstances it may be deemed proper to admit a child after the term has commenced, it is desired that he will continue in the School until the ensuing vacation.

The faithful observance in this Institution of our well known and important testimonies as to plainness of speech, behaviour and apparel, continues to claim our unabated attention; and we earnestly desire that the importance thereof may be duly impressed upon the minds of the children before leaving their homes, and that they may be encouraged in no respect to deviate therefrom, and thus wound themselves, and bring reproach upon our profession. In a Circular first issued in 1835, and revised in 1839, copies of which were transmitted to the different Monthly Meetings, some directions were proposed as to what constituted a suitable attire for Scholars; to which we desire again to refer Friends who are intending to send their children to the Schools.

On behalf and by direction of the School Committee,

Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk.

Bowdoin School,
5th mo. 5th, 1843.

The following item of the last Will and Testament of our friend Amy Green, late of Rutland, deceased, being laid before us by request of Daniel Otis, the Executor of said Will, viz.

Item 7. To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England I give and bequeath in trust for the use of said Yearly Meeting's Boarding School at Providence, one share in the Capital Stock of the Rutland Commercial Bank to be used in such way and for such purposes, either principal or interest, as said Yearly Meeting's Committee for the Government of said School may direct."

The same is acceptable to us as an evidence of her good will to the Society; and John Howland & William Tatem are appointed to receive from said Executors a transfer of the share, and to give them a suitable discharge on behalf of this Meeting; and they are requested to transfer the same to the Treasurer of the School Fund.

George W. Rose, John Osborne, Hezekiah Wilbur, Robert Cash, Peleg Peckham, Daniel Wood and Stephen Rogers were appointed to prepare a Statement of the Answers to the Queries received at this time, and present to our next sitting.

David Rathbun, Stephen Rathbun, Thomas Weaver, Samuel Taylor, jun., Joseph Helme jr., George W. Rose, Isaac K. Gifford, John Page, Samuel Page, Paul King of Scituate, and John Osborne

were appointed a Committee to take into solid consideration such subjects as may appear to them to be connected with the best welfare of Society, and to report thereon from time to time, as way may open for it.

Adjourned to the 10 H. 1 hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 13th.

Friends again assembled pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present except one from Salem.

The account directed to us at this time by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, embracing the following information, viz. "At a Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held at East Greenwich, 5th mo 14th 1843

"A number of members of Greenwich Monthly Meeting, with members of South Kingstown & N. Meeting, have applied for the judgment of this Meeting, in dissolving South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, and joining the members constituting it to that of Greenwich;

on the 11th month last, We have appointed Rec. Scott, Allen King, Enoch Gibbons, Joseph Wetherill, Nicholas Congdon Wm. S. Fox, Wm. J. Robinson and Jonathan Congdon to represent this Meeting in that case, before the Committee that yearly may appoint; and have directed copies of the minutes made in this Meeting respecting to it, to be furnished them.

David Buffum Clerk."

We appoint our friends John Page, Nathan G. Chase, Jonathan Nichols, Isaac R. Gifford, Wm. Gardner, James Tucker, Jun.r A. Willet, Nathan Lapham, Stephen Jones, James C. Fry, Abel Thurston, John Wilbur, Daniel Foster, Paul Vaber, Stephen Jones jun.r Tobias Meader, William Hill, Joseph Brackett, Elijah Pope, David Douglass, and William Fox, to take said case into consideration; hear the Appellants and the Committee of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, and report their judgment thereon at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The Queries, and the answers thereto received ~~record~~ at the present time, from our several Quarterly Meetings, were read; and during the time thus spent, a feeling of solemnity was spread over the Meeting, under the covering of which, weighty minds were enabled to feel how to proceed much of pertinent counsel and advice on various subjects thereby brought into view; and among these, the very responsible duties of Parents towards their beloved offspring in training them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord were largely dwelt upon, and they were affectionately interceded with to seek for that qualification which would enable them to guard the tender minds of the dear Children committed to their charge, from every thing that would stand in the way of their being favoured to partake together of the refreshing and reviving incomes of Divine love. The language of encouragement was also freely extended to the beloved youth; they were invited to turn a deaf ear to the delusive suggestions of the enemy of our peace, that the path of self denial is too narrow for them to walk in, or that they may safely indulge themselves in deviating from it for a season, & then return to its pleasant bounds: they were faithfully reminded of the difficulties that many have found, after a long continued indulgence in practices which have been clearly manifested to them to be wrong, to return to the garden enclosed; of our inability to do this of ourselves; and that the more convenient season to which many at times carefully looking, perradventure may never arrive.

Among

1843. "Among the many temptations to which the beloved youth are exposed, the pernicious influence of Books calculated to alienate their minds from an attention to the inspeaking word of Divine grace in their hearts, and to render the perusal of the Holy Scriptures and other good books distasteful to them was impressively urged.

"And the following paragraph from the advices of the Yearly Meeting of London, being read in connection with this concern for the preservation and welfare of our beloved Youth, it was thought that useful fruits might result from its being entered upon our minutes for future recurrence.

"This Meeting earnestly recommends to all Friends who are concerned for the prosperity of the Truth, to exercise a tender care over the younger members of our Society, having in mind the exposed situation of many of them and their critical period of life. It would encourage Friends to cultivate an acquaintance with Youth, to call upon them at their different places of abode, and to manifest by the general tenour of their conduct towards them a kind interest in their welfare and preservation from harm, and a solicitude that they may be established on the right foundation, in the faith and hope of the Gospel. We believe this feeling of regard, if cherished, will indeed Friends, when any are not diligent in attending our religious meetings, to press upon them the advantage & importance of this primary duty. It will lead them also to encourage our young people to read the Holy Scriptures daily, with desires that the Lord may bless them in their awakened waitings to their spiritual instruction. And to impress on Friends to promote, especially among the younger part of our body, an acquaintance with the writings of our approved authors, in which are set forth the grounds of our religious testimonies, the persecutions suffered by our faithful predecessors in the exercise of them, and many instances of the visitations of divine love so often mercifully granted in early life."

*

A memorial of Wassalboro' Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, concerning our late beloved friend Benjamin Worth, was read, and left to an affectionate revival of his memory, and testimony to his worth, in the minds of many Friends, and being approved by the Meeting, was directed to be recorded.

A memorial of the Monthly Meeting of Sandwich, N. H. concerning our late beloved friend Cyrus Beede, was also feelingly approved, and directed to be placed on record.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

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* For Summary of Answers, see page 220.

Fourth-day morning, the 14th.

Met pursuant to adjournment.— Representatives present, as yesterday.

The minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before this meeting and read,— and a very general expression of satisfaction with the attention thereby manifested to the various interesting concerns of society that have claimed their attention was spread over the Meeting.

An "Essay on some of the prominent Doctrines and Testimonies of Friends" prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings, was also read; and was very fully and feelingly united with, and being adopted by this Meeting, the Clerk was directed to sign the same on our behalf, and transmit a copy thereof to each of the Yearly Meetings with which we are in correspondence. And the Essay was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, to cause such number of copies to be printed, as they may consider expedient, for circulation among our members and others.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met.

The members of the Meeting for Sufferings now under appointment, (with the exception of our late friend Moses Starbuck, deceased since our last Yearly Meeting,) are continued to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, or until another appointment, to act therein according to the original service and authority of that Meeting.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, and for that purpose, produced the following report, viz.

"Newport, 6th mo. 14th. 1843.

"We have this day examined and settled the accts of David Buffum Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, and find a balance in his hands of one hundred & sixty-one $\frac{84}{100}$ dollars. We recommend that twelve hundred dollars be raised for the service of the ensuing year. And for ourselves. David Buffum for themselves.

On behalf of the Committee,
Geo. W. Baker.

which being considered was satisfactory to the Meeting, and in accordance therewith, David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year, and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to him their respective proportions of twelve hundred dollars. The sum proposed to be raised, viz. R. I. and 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ Salem 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, Sandwich 30, Falmouth 4 $\frac{3}{4}$, Smithfield 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, Nantucket 2, Dover 6 $\frac{1}{4}$, Fairfield, 2.

The Committee on the concerns of this Yearly Meeting in relation to the Indians located West of the Mississippi, produced the following Report.

next

1843.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee on the concern for the Indians West of the Mississippi, report,— That in accordance with the prospect stated in our report to the Yearly Meeting last year and fully united with by the Meeting, our friends John D. Long and Samuel Taylor, jun. have visited about twenty tribes and remnants of tribes of Indians located West of the Mississippi — and having been favored safely to complete their arduous journey to their own peace and our satisfaction, have furnished us with an interesting account thereof,— which we present for the disposal of the Yearly Meeting, in conjunction with New-York Yearly Meeting whose minute in relation thereto is herewith forwarded.

On behalf of the Committee,

Samuel Boyd Clk. pro tem.

Philadelphia 6th mo 10. 1843.

The narrative referred to in the preceding report, of the journey of our friends John D. Long & Sam'l Taylor, jr. among various tribes and remnants of tribes of Indians visited by them, was then read,— affording much interesting information of their present situation and future prospects —— and their concluding remarks, briefly recapitulating some of the wrongs which this deeply aggrieved and much injured people are sustaining at the hands of avaricious & unprincipled white men, and suggesting such efforts for their relief, by application to the Government and otherwise, as it has occurred to them may be attempted with some prospect of ameliorating their unhappy and degraded situation. Being now justly clearly brought into view — were directed to be placed on record for future reference. * — After an expression of much interest and sympathy with the concern, and of grateful acknowledgment for the preservation witnessed by our dear Friends in their arduous undertaking, it was referred to the Committee on the general concerns of Society, to consider of and propose at a future sitting, such further action on the subject as in their judgment it may be best for Friends to take at the present time.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

see printed pages annexed.

Fifth-day afternoon, the 15th.

Friends again assembled, pursuant to adjournment. Representatives all present but one.

An acceptable Epistle from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina was received and read at this sitting, and was referred to the Committee on the Correspondence.

A minute of Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Andrew Nichols, of South Kingstown was read, and being approved was directed to be recorded.

Being informed that our beloved friend Hannah A. Jenkins has been liberated to perform a

make a special visit to them. They are settled on the Choctaws' land, and speak the same language and intermarry with them.

GENERAL REMARKS.

After having spent several months in travelling among the Indians located on our western frontier, and having used our utmost endeavors to gather such facts and information as we apprehended might be useful or interesting to our Society and the community at large, we deem it right for us to submit a few general remarks touching the most prominent points, for the future consideration and action of the Society of Friends on behalf of the aborigines of our land.

During our visit among the Indians, many circumstances were apparent, which, in our opinion tended to prevent their advancement in civilization, and to retard their moral and religious improvement. We are aware that much labor and property are expended yearly on their account, and yet it is sad to relate, that these poor, benighted, and almost friendless beings, are daily diminishing in numbers, and in many instances, sinking deeper and deeper in misery and woe. There are but few to look into their wants, or to raise a voice against the malpractices of the numerous unprincipled white men who infest their country, in order to obtain the money annually paid to them, and at the same time are practising the most degrading and immoral conduct.

If the hand of the destroyer is not speedily arrested, in all human probability, it will be but a few years before this once numerous race will be numbered with the nations that are not. Nearly all the tribes are decreasing yearly, and some of them

at the rapid rate of from twelve to twenty per cent. The present condition of the elder part of the uncivilized tribes is such, having long been a prey to unprincipled white men, that we cannot look for much change for the better in many of them; yet in beholding the younger men and women and the little children who appear to be endowed with talents for improvement equal to the whites, we were encouraged to look forward with a hope of better days for this poor, degraded, and almost friendless people, if the Christian community should without delay use their influence to remove the prominent obstacles now in the way of their civilization.

We would remark in the first place, that the Indians who have been removed from the east to the west side of the Mississippi River, appear to be in an unsettled state, and to entertain fears of being again removed. They say they have as yet received no guarantee from government that they shall remain on these lands any longer than it may suit the convenience of the whites; and some of them are desirous that Friends and others interested in their welfare, should use their influence to have their lands secured to them in fee simple forever, that their fears on this account may be quieted, and they encouraged to lay up something for themselves and their children.

In the next place, nearly all the tribes have annuities paid them in goods or money, quite sufficient in most cases to make them comfortable during the year, if rightly applied. Each tribe receives all their money at one payment, and this money passes from them in a few days, and in most instances the poor ignorant Indian has nothing of value to show for it, but is, in fact, made more miserable on account of it, from its misapplication.

We would suggest the propriety of endeavoring to bring about a change in the manner in which these payments are made, so as to place their money, if possible, out of the reach of avaricious and unprincipled men. We are aware, that to effect such a change might be attended with difficulties, but the good that would arise to the Indians would warrant some sacrifice to effect so desirable an object. The Indians in their pre-

sent state are very improvident, and in most cases, incapable of managing their affairs and expending their money to advantage. We would not hold out to the public that they are receiving more than their due, but inasmuch as the government consider them as their wards, they should extend their guardianship still further, and not leave them as much exposed as they now are.

The Indians appear not in general to be governed by moral or religious principles, and every means is used to place before them such things as will entice their appetites and passions, and having little to restrain them, they fall an easy prey to temptation, and the work of destruction goes on while they are possessed of any thing that is valuable, or have any credit left. We consider their annuities justly due them, and would be far from proposing any thing that would divert them from being used for their benefit; but we believe it to be very desirable that more effectual measures be adopted to have them disbursed in a manner that will tend as far as practicable, to the real advantage of the poor Indians. Another great source of immorality and misery is their near location to the military posts. While the ostensible object of these fortifications is to guard the Indians on the frontier from being harmed by the wild tribes, and to prevent hostilities between them and the frontier settlers, the licentiousness hence resulting in many of the tribes is too gross to be mentioned; the effect of which is, to destroy the morals of many of the whites, and to entail wretchedness, misery, and death, on the Indians.

In regard to their farming operations, we would remark, that the manner in which government in some instances expends the Indian appropriations for agriculture, is to prepare and carry on a farm at a suitable place on the land owned by the tribe, as a pattern or sample farm. This manner of farming is attended with considerable expense, and with but little apparent advantage to the Indians, they being much like children that cannot set themselves to work, but might be directed therein, if they had for a few years suitable instructors, not only to show them how, but also to help them to do the work. Therefore, we believe that to ensure success, it would be important to employ persons to give general and constant assistance to each

Indian in the management of his particular lot. One man could assist twenty or more persons, and it would be desirable that some of these should be married men, whose wives might be employed to instruct the women in the various branches of housewifery; for we think much more may be expected from the improvement of the women, than from that of the men; the women being more immediately associated with the children, and much better acquainted with habits of industry. This mode of instruction would not be attended with much more expense than the pattern farm system.

Those Indians who live in wigwams, are much inclined to rove; and it is not uncommon for them to remove several times during the summer. On this account, it seems very important that they should be encouraged to abandon the wigwam altogether, and to live in houses and have lots attached to them —well enclosed, so that an individual interest might be excited, instead of having things in common as they now do; for unless such an interest can be raised among them, it will be difficult to make much improvement in many of the tribes.

We would also give a few hints upon education. The Indians being so generally prejudiced against the white people, are very much averse to their children being educated by them, either in or out of their nation; and boys who have been educated *abroad*, are treated with much neglect when they return home; and having no opportunity to apply their education, either among their own people or the whites, they soon become discouraged, and in order to initiate themselves again into favor with their tribe, return to the habits and practices of uncivilized life. We regretted that there were no educated Indians employed as teachers or assistants in any of the tribes, white people supplying such places entirely. Much advantage, we believe, might arise in many respects both to parents and children, by encouraging native teachers and assistants; and we would suggest, that special care be taken to bring about so desirable an object.

Having compiled the foregoing statement of facts from extended notes, taken during the course of our journey, which

occupied us from the latter part of the Eighth-month to the last of the year 1842, during which we were partakers of many mercies and preservations, we submit it to the consideration and disposal of our dear friends of the committees of New-England and New-York Yearly Meetings.

Signed, JOHN D. LANG,
SAMUEL TAYLOR, Jun.

Fourth Month, 19*th*, 1843.

1843

religious visit within the limits of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and if way should open for it, to extend the visit to some places on the Continent of Europe, presented a minute of their unity with the concern, & Wm Wing, Thomas Rowland, Rowland Greene, John Hoskins, Jacob Willits and Samuel Boyd Tobey were named a Committee, with whom she may counsel and advise on any subject connected with this concern.

The subject of returning minutes for Friends now with us from abroad was referred to the Committee on the Foreign Service of Society, appointed at a previous sitting; and the Meeting then adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth-day morning, the 16th.

The names of the Representatives were absent on Case in the service of the Meeting, the calling of their names at this sitting was dispensed with.

Rowland Greene, on behalf of the Committee to which it was referred to consider & report to this Meeting what further action it would in their judgment be best for Friends to attempt at this time, in regard to our concern for the Indians located West of the Mississippi, made report, that they had carefully considered the subject, and saw no better way than to refer the whole subject back to our Committee on this concern, to act in conjunction with the Committee of New York Yearly Meeting — with liberty to have printed the Narrative of the Labours of our Friends John D Lang and Samuel Taylor, jun.r or such parts thereof as they may consider can be carefully presented to the public. Which was united with — And they were also encouraged, if way should open for it, to memorialize the Government on behalf of this suffering people. Provided the Meetings for Sufferings of this and New York Yearly Meetings should unite with them as to the expediency of the measure.

The joint Committee of Men and Women appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals members, made report of their attention to that service during the past year, and expressing their belief that the care of the Yearly Meeting, this Committee is still necessary for the promotion of the welfare and best interests of the Society, which being considered & united with, and the following Friends were severally appointed, viz. John Warren, Rowland Greene, Thomas Anthony, John Osborne, Edward Wing, Jno D. Lang, Abraham Sharman, jun.r Benj.a Peck, David Duggins, Daniel Hale, Thomas Jones, Enoch Reed, Charles Cleaveland, Samuel Taylor, jun.r Caleb Nichols, Wm Jenkins, John Hoskins, Benj.a Howland, Samuel Jones, of Providence, & Wm Wing were continued in this service for another year, and were desired to perform as many visits, for it, in discharge of the duties heretofore assigned them, viz.

1843 "to extend a general care on our behalf, for the preservation of love and unity among our members, and the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies; and in the ability that may be afforded them, to assist and advise such Meetings and members as circumstances may required and way open for, under the direction of best wisdom." And were requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The following is the report of the Committee referred to in the preceding minute, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee to visit subordinate Meetings & Individual Members, Report that we have endeavoured to give that attention to the duties of our appointment, which its importance demanded; having extended a care for the maintenance of the Christian Discipline, testimonies and good order of our religious Society; and laboured, in the ability afforded, for the restoration of love and unity among our members, which we apprehend to be essential to the well being of the body: making such communication, and giving from time to time such advice and assistance, to meetings and to individuals, as occasion seemed to require and way open for. And we believe that the care of the Yearly Meeting, through a Committee, is still necessary for the promotion of love and unity, and the welfare and best interests of Society.

On behalf of the Committee,
Rowland Greene.

Newport, 6m: 14th, 1843. Mary Wing."

Copies of Epistolary communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Ireland and Philadelphia, prepared by the Committee on the Correspondence, were read and approved at this sitting.

The Meeting for Sufferings was authorised to recommend the Memorials concerning deceased Friends, that have been approved by this Meeting since the publication of Memorials, recently issued — and if, it may, should open for it, to have them printed and circulated among Friends.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The report of the Committee having charge of the concern of the Yearly Meeting in relation to the Readmission of Indians, was read, affording encouragement to believe that the work of improvement is gradually advancing among them. The Friends who have constituted the Committee, viz. John Hazard, Caleb Nichols, Samuel Taylor, jun. Edmund Cole, Eli Anthony of Windham, Stephen Lewis, jun. John C. Greene, Rowland Green, David Peckham, Wm. Jenkins, Joseph Eldridge, Joseph A. Howland, with the addition of Daniel Coit, Jr. of

1843. Richardson and Hannah Tatum was united to extend such further care towards them, as they apprehend will be best calculated to promote the object that Meeting has had in view in this concern. And the Committee was also encouraged to keep in view the concern that has been felt by Friends for the Indians generally in this, and extend such care towards them as they may open for, and report to this Meeting next year. Our Treasurer was requested to hand our friend Edm.d Bates on behalf of the Committee, the sum of $50. in furtherance of those objects.

Report.— "To the Yearly Meeting.

"The Committee having charge of the concern of the Yearly Meeting in relation to the Shetucot tribe of Indians, report, That they have given the usual attention to them during the past year, and that one of their number has visited them in the course of their harvest, in their several locations, and taken an inventory of their crops, and made such other observations in reference to them, as to enable the Committee with satisfaction to state; that the work of improvement is going forward among them; their farming, with very few exceptions, being done in a more workmanlike manner; their crops have exceeded in amount any former year, and they appear increasingly interested in securing their crops for the benefit of their families. Two have been a few instances of the children attending school among their white neighbours, and making good improvement. The report of the Committee of last year, and the minutes made on the subject, were laid before the Executive of Ohio and received their full approbation; and the Committee was requested to inform the Yearly Meeting, that the measures pursued by Friends were satisfactory, and that they may be assured of the cordial co-operation of the Executive in whatever may tend to the improvement of the condition of those sons of the forest. The Committee believe that much usefulness would result from the employment of a suitable person to reside among them, as suggested in their last report; but way has not opened during the past year to accomplish that object.

"Several new houses have been built since our last report, and that usual assistance has been rendered.

"No concern for the Shetucot tribe has also arisen to the attention of the Committee; but a contemplated visit to them at the close of the year previous to the most recent was prevented by sickness and other unforeseen occurrences.

"There remains in the hands of the Committee a balance of about $50. And if the Yearly Meeting concludes to appoint a Committee to have some future care of these Tribes of our red brethren, we would propose the appropriation of the additional sum of $60. to this service.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6th mo. 1843. Stephen Jones, jun.

In connection with their Report, the Committee presented

1843 a detailed account of the agricultural operations of the Cherokee Tribe for the year past; from an abstract of which it appears that they raised of Corn 390 bushels; Wheat, 512; Potatoes, 5320; Barley, 30; Oats, 207; Peas, 47; Beans, 181; Turnips 75; Garden Vegetables, 20.

Essays of communications to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of New York, Baltimore, Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Indiana, were laid before the Meeting at this sitting, and being approved, the Clerk was directed to have them transcribed, sign them on our behalf, together with the Essays to London, Ireland, and Philadelphia, read at the preceding sitting, and forward them to those Meetings respectively.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

The Committee to which was referred the perusal of returning minutes for our Friends now on the eve from abroad, proposed the following, viz:

The company and religious services of our esteemed friend Isaac Thorn, have been acceptable to us.

The company and religious services of our esteemed friend John Hill have been acceptable to us.

Mahlon Day, companion to our friend John Hill has been acceptably with us at this time.

John Thorn, companion to our friend Isaac Thorn has been acceptably with us at this time.

Which being satisfactory to the Meeting, the Clerk was directed to furnish them with copies thereof, as it relates to each, and signed by him on our behalf.

Adjourned to the 8th hour tomorrow morning

Seventh-day morning, the 17th.

Met assembled according to adjournment. The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present but two, for whose absence satisfactory reasons have been assigned.

The Committee appointed on Third-day morning last to take into consideration the case of Appeal from the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting in dissolving South-Kingstown Monthly Meeting, and annexing the Members constituting it to Greenwich Monthly Meeting, now produced a report signed by thirteen of them members, informing the Meeting, that having given a full hearing to the parties respectively, they had upon deliberation, come to the conclusion, that the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed, - which, after a time of deliberate consideration thereon was united with and confirmed by this Meeting, and the judgment of said Meeting confirmed accordingly.

And the Clerk was directed to furnish a copy of this Minute to Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, and also

to

1843 hand a copy thereof to some Friend of the late South-Kingstown Monthly Meeting, representing the Appellants.

The following is the Report of the Committee referred to in the preceding Minute, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to hear and determine in the case of Appeal of South-Kingstown Monthly Meeting from the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting having given a full hearing to the parties respectively, the undersigned members of said Committee have upon deliberation thereon come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed.

Newport, 3mo. 16. 1843.

Nathan Pope
Stephen Jones, 2nd
Isaac R. Gifford
Moses Brown

Nathan Jones
John Paige
Paul Tobey
Elijah Pope
David Douglas
James A. Fry
Tobias Meader
Nathan G. Chase
William Tarr

Although we have been made sensibly to feel during the course of this Meeting that this is indeed a time of deep trial to the Church — yet under a feeling sense that at various seasons during its continuance we have been favoured to partake together of the consolating influence of Divine good — we conclude — with a grateful acknowledgment of the mercy thus extended — to meet again at this place in the Sixth Month next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting by

Nathan Sharpless, jun. Clk.

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode-Island, from the 11th to the 17th inclusive, of the sixth Month, 1844.

To the Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

Your very acceptable Epistle of last year has been received at this time, and by its reading you have been brought near to our best feelings, under a renewed sense of that fellowship which we are favoured to enjoy one with another, as we abide in Christ our holy Head.

We feel that it is among the mercies still extended to us by our heavenly Father, that we are permitted to assemble in this our annual Meeting to promote the prosperity of

1843. of the Church, to inquire into the welfare of its various constituent parts, and to administer such advice, assistance and encouragement thereto as may be graciously qualified for by Him from whom alone proceedeth all true wisdom and clear sight.

It was at this time [illegible] that it was concluded that it was in full unity, that the Discipline of this Society, and its consistent organization were established by our forefathers, adapted as they are to preserve and promote the best good of meetings and individuals, and a concern has been feelingly evinced, that the necessary subordination of inferior to superior meetings, and of individual members to the body, may continue to prevail among us. It is, we are fully persuaded, incumbent on us to submit ourselves unto the teaching of Him who is ever present for the instruction of his dependent children; that we shall be brought to feel the sacredness of those bounds which he in his wisdom has seen meet to set, and in faithful obedience to them, we shall be preserved at none of them to remove, but that we may be sustained in the authority and under the direction of the truth. The Church limitations of action will be carefully, yet and scrupulously observed.

In a review of the state of Society as laid before us at this time, we have been made to feel that there exist many deficiencies existing among us in various important particulars, yet we have not been left without a comforting belief and evidence that there are those in every different part of the heritage who are concerned to keep the law and the testimony, and engaged faithfully to labour in the vineyard of the Lord. May the hands of those who are [illegible] be strengthened and their faith fail not; remembering that unto such the promise is sure, that in due time they shall reap if they faint not.

[illegible] at this time again concerned to [illegible] our fellow members with affectionate earnestness the necessity of watching, if we would witness a growing in ourselves, to maintain our ancient doctrines and testimonies without any compromise, believing them to be of the Truth which changeth not, and the Meeting for Sufferings having prepared and presented to us an Essay on some of the prominent Doctrines and Testimonies which have always been most surely believed and maintained by us as a religious Society, it was fully united with and adopted by this Meeting, and directed to be freely circulated. A copy is herewith transmitted to you.

In the prosecution of a united concern of our own and New York Yearly Meeting, two of our beloved brethren have during the past year visited and truly sympathized with Friends of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin; the Mississippi River; and having been favoured during their arduous journey, and enabled to accomplish it to their own

1843 peace and our satisfaction. they have now presented to this
Meeting an Address and Epistle, [illegible] which
we are not without hope may be a profitable and edifying
[illegible] to the Indians. Our Friends were generally received very
kindly by the Indians; the faithfulness and Christian
care manifested towards them by our religious society
many times being felt and acknowledged by them, and they
were ready to listen attentively to the counsel that was offered
them. And contemplating the facts presented to us, we
have been made to mourn over their pitiable situation, bro-
ken down so in no small degree, by the cupidity and unchristian
and demoralizing conduct of the whites by whom they are
surrounded; and while we are concerned to do all that we
may be enabled [illegible] to [illegible] good, [illegible] lamentation
have filled our minds in view of the [illegible] of many
of the Tribes, and of their rapid progress towards entire
extinction; as it appears that seven of them are diminishing
at the fearful rate of from twelve to twenty per cent per annum.

We may acknowledge, dear Brethren, that the present
is with us a day of trials. Many are the stratagems of
the unwearied adversary to scatter and divide among us; but
thanks be unto the merciful Saviour of his people, we have
felt, [illegible] to be [illegible] to be united [illegible] to con-
duct the important concerns that have come before us,
we trust in some measure to the honour of his holy cause
— for which he is worthy of all praise in whose adorable
Name there yet remaineth to be everlasting strength.

With the salutation of brotherly love
We are your Friends,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shearman jun'r Clerk

[illegible] Friend.

Dear Friends,

We have been again permitted to meet in
this our annual assembly to transact the important con-
cerns of the Church and have had abundant cause of
thankfulness to our heavenly Father for the many favours
vouchsafed to us at this time; and [illegible] we are of
the least of His moving. We humbly trust it is offered us
a measure of His good Spirit, whereby we have been en-
abled to transact the [illegible] in
brotherly love.

Your acceptable Epistle of last year was read in
this Meeting to our comfort and edification.

On coming to this Nation many hearts have been
brought to feel sensibly that of themselves they are not
sufficient to do the Lord's work, or to advance his cause; and
we have been willing to abide under this humbling
view

1843. [illegible] to afford them a sense of the service He has for them to do, and to strengthen them to accomplish it, we trust, acceptably to Him.

Dear Brethren, may our hearts be comforted, being knit together in Love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding to the acknowledgment of the mystery of God and of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. And as we thus become united in love, we shall be fitted, and to Him are we thus called, and to fulfil the Law of Christ.

We have been brought deeply to feel for the younger members of our religious society both with you & with us, surrounded as they are by many temptations, and mixed and associated in many instances with those whose example has a tendency to lead them aside from the simplicity of the Truth and to bewilder them with doubts & uncertainties. Our prayers for them have been, that the Lord would be pleased in his tender mercy to cast about them his wall of defence, so that the pitfalls which might be permitted to be laid to ensnare their feet, may be discovered, & they enabled to turn away with the delusive promise of greater enjoyment by following after the vanities & lusts of the world. We are united [illegible] in the belief that there is but one way for us to walk in, and that is the way cast up for the ransomed of the Lord to walk in; and we are confirmed in believing that there is still a remnant left, & that for the maintenance of our Christian testimonies and principles on their ancient foundation.

Our Meeting continues to feel a deep interest for the [illegible] aborigines of our country, and from time to time extends advice and assistance to the Penobscot Tribe. In conjunction with our brethren of New York Yearly Meeting, we have for some time past had our Master drawn towards those Tribes of Indians located West of the Mississippi River, and [illegible] in the performance of religious duty in the prosecution of this concern, made a visit to those afflicted sons of the forest in their own borders, which we are mercifully enabled to accomplish to our satisfaction and the peace of those we visited. Their Report has been read at this time, and we feel a deep and lively interest in the Meeting for this much injured people, who in consequence of the introduction of Ardent spirits and its Kindred vices introduced among them by the depraved whites by whom they are surrounded, is fast fading away; and unless, by Divine interposition, the hand of the destroyer is stayed, this once numerous people will soon be numbered among the nations that are no more. [illegible] Committee having charge of this concern, with a view to the publication of the Report.

Our Meeting for Sufferings at this time presented an Epistle upon some of the prominent Doctrines and Testimonies [illegible] which was united with by this Meeting, and directed to be published. We herewith forward you a copy.

With the salutation of Love, we are your Friends,

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Being assembled in the capacity of our Yearly Meeting for the purpose of transacting the affairs of Society, our minds have been renewedly impressed with the necessity of endeavouring to look unto Him who is Head over all things to His Church, for qualification & direction in all our religious engagements, that in whatever we do, may be done with a single eye to His glory, and to the edification of His Church; and it would gratify & rejoice us, that during the several sittings of this Yearly Meeting, although trials have been permitted to assail us, there have been times and seasons, when He has been graciously pleased to give us an evidence that our feeble efforts for the promotion of our ancient principles and testimonies have been owned with the crowning presence of His love.

And we have greatly desired that all our members, and particularly the younger members in the Church, might take courage, remembering that whatever trials we may have to pass through, He has promised never to leave nor forsake those who in humble dependence cast their whole care upon Him, and endeavour to look unto Him for wisdom as directed them in all their movements. even that wisdom which is of the Apostle, which cometh from above, and which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. And we have greatly desired that under the direction of this wisdom we may be found earnestly contending for the faith, and striving together for the hope of the Gospel, always bearing in mind the caution of the Apostle, "that no man is crowned unless he strives lawfully."

In reviewing the State of Society, as set forth in the answers to the Queries, we acknowledge that deficiencies exist, and fervent have been our desires for their removal, and for the more faithful support of our ancient principles and testimonies. We believe that it was through the instrumentality of the Light of Christ upon the heart, that our worthy predecessors in the Truth, were led to the institution of our Christian discipline. And as neither age, rank, nor condition, exempts any of our members from its wholesome and salutary restraint, we have at this time been renewedly led to believe, that, being administered in the spirit of Truth it has ever proved a blessing to our Society, and that it remains for us to hedge about us, which it would be perilous to break down. Let us then, dear Friends, both young and old, endeavour to maintain it, and seek for Divine wisdom in the administration thereof. Believing that the history of our Society fully proves, that when from any cause, our members have been permitted to step over its bounds, weakness and loss to the Church, have ensued. May

1843. we then be encouraged, individually, and collectively, to strengthen each others hands in supporting it.

During the past year this subject, together with the faithful support of our ancient principles, has claimed the weighty deliberation of our Meeting for Sufferings, and has resulted in the preparation of a brief Essay, setting forth some of our prominent doctrines and testimonies. The Essay being produced and read at this time, a deep solemnity was spread over our Meeting, and fully united with it, thereby affording a renewed and comfortable evidence that our Yearly Meeting continues to be united in the ancient doctrines and principles of Friends, and that a deep and heartfelt concern still prevails among us for their support and promulgation. And after a time of solid consideration, it was directed to be printed for distribution. A copy thereof is herewith transmitted to you.

We have at this time received an interesting Report from our dear Friends who have visited some of the Tribes of Indians West of the Mississippi, on behalf of this and New York Yearly Meetings. They having been mercifully enabled to accomplish this journey to their own peace and satisfaction, and to return in safety to their homes. They were received kindly, and much gratitude was manifested for the labours of Friends among them. From the information thus obtained, it appears in their present distant location
this interesting class of the human family are sinking deeper and deeper in misery and woe, and are fast wasting away. They have had to look into their wants, & to raise a voice against the evil practices of the unprincipled white men who infest their country, in order to obtain the money annually paid to them by the Government. These traders, by selling them ardent spirits, and by practising the most degrading and immoral conduct, are the cause of much of their misery and suffering. We fear that without some salutary interposition, the time is fast approaching when this once numerous race will be numbered among the nations that are not. And we have greatly desired that Friends may be encouraged to pursue the right openings for the amelioration of their condition. The Report has been referred to the Committee on Indian affairs, with a view to its publication.

Your Epistle of 4th mo. last has been received and read, together with Epistles from our dear Brethren of other Yearly Meetings; and in the reading thereof, we have been glad to believe that as the carnal hedges is kept up with a single eye to the glory of from whom all our help and strength come, it may continue to be the means of uniting us more closely together in the fellowship of the Gospel.

With the salutation of love, we remain, Your friends. Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting by, Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk.

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1 x See slip attached to next page.

4. In the case of this ordinance, it is not only
evident that the acts and consents of Indians, of persons
claimed as the free citizens of the United States, will
not be united with many of the Negroes, and said ordi-
nance will give rise to strife among them.

To New-York

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

1843 Then shall we have fellowship one with another; the deficiencies in the maintenance of our precious testimonies will be removed, and we shall become as a city set on a hill that cannot be hid.

We have at this time had the company of many of our young friends, whose solid deportment has evinced that they are becoming increasingly concerned for the welfare of the church and has afforded us the encouraging hope that when the aged are removed, there will be those from among them, who having submitted to the crucifying operation of the cross of Christ will be qualified to fill their places.

The faithful maintenance of our ancient principles and testimonies has, during the past year claimed the attention of our Meeting for Sufferings, and has resulted in preparing an Address to our Members, exhorting them to be steadfast in their adherence thereto; which has been adopted by the Yearly Meeting, and ordered to be printed for circulation.

With the salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting,

by Abraham Shearman, jun'r Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends.

Being again permitted to meet in this our annual assembly for the solemn purpose of Divine worship and to transact the weighty concerns of the Church, you have been brought near to our feelings by the reading of your acceptable Epistle; and we have had to rejoice in the belief, that as we are concerned to dwell under the sanctifying power of Truth, an epistolary correspondence may be maintained that will be to our mutual comfort and edification.

Although we have not been without our trials at this time, yet we trust we have been made to rejoice, and humbly to acknowledge the mercies with which we have been favoured by the great Head of the Church in the extension of Holy help: which we trust has been experienced at this season.

In recurring to the state of Society as brot to view by the answers to the Queries we find that deficiencies still exist amongst us, which has been cause of much exercise to the living members; and serious desires have been raised that all may come to see the necessity of a deeper indwelling in Christ our Holy Head; and that we may be walking as more fully to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

With you we still continue to cherish warm feelings of interest for the much injured African race, and although no way seems at present to open for action on their behalf, yet we fervently desire that the cheering light it is to arise in the hearts of the children of men, will so enlarge the hearts of the oppressors to shew mercy, that every yoke may be broken, and the oppressed go free.

[illegible] from two of our Friends [illegible] on the occasion of a concern of this and New-York Yearly Meeting [illegible] that [illegible] of the Indians in the West, [illegible] of the Mississippi, has been read in our Meeting, and called forth much feeling of sympathy for this interesting but [illegible] injured people: and the further disposal of the document was referred to the Committee on Indian concerns, with a view to its publication.

The Seneca Tribe of Indians, situated within our limits, continues to make some improvement in civilization and in agriculture, which encourages Friends to continue their care towards them.

Our Boarding School appears to be in a prosperous condition, and we trust there is an increasing concern for the guarded education of the beloved youth of our Society.

In conclusion, beloved Friends, we desire that a living engagement may rest upon the minds of all, to be found watching unto prayer, that we enter not into temptation.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting,

Abraham Shearman, jun.' Clerk

To Virginia

Dear Friends,

We are again permitted to meet in this our annual assembly; and have again to commemorate the goodness of our heavenly Father, who, we humbly trust, still deigns to own us as a part of His heritage, notwithstanding many defections still existing among us, and we are thankful in believing there is yet preserved a living remnant who, in desires above all things else faithfully to uphold the precious testimonies which we believe He has committed unto us as a people to bear; and how encouraging is the declaration to every truly sincere upright soul, that "the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his."

We have not received an Epistle from you at this time, yet you have been brought near unto us in the fellowship of the Gospel, and we feel to salute you in love, greatly desiring that you with us may be preserved in the unchangeable Truth, having on the whole armour of righteousness — then we shall not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try us, as though some strange thing happened unto us: but rejoice that we are partakers of Christ's sufferings, that when his glory shall be revealed we may be glad also with exceeding joy.

We reverently believe that the Lord will have a willing people, who are zealous for his great name, and oh! that we may be among this highly favoured, yet not coveting outward ease, are exceedingly anxious to be known

1843 known of them, who regardeth not the height of the stature nor the comeliness of the countenance," but looketh at the heart. "Know ye not whether that your bodies are the temple of God — and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you;" and seeing that He dwelleth not in an unclean temple, how necessary it is for every one of us to have our hearts cleansed in the baptism of fire, of which we can never know of an abiding sense of his holy presence. "Behold," saith the dear Master, "I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open unto me, I will come in and sup with him, and he with me." What a gracious invitation — may we be so wise as rightly to accept it; while it is graciously offered unto us; this in mind would lead us to love one another, and to watch over one another for good, and we should have the blessed assurance that we had passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."

Our hearts have been disposed into sympathy with you and for you, and may we just our trust in the Lord alone, and seek to be guided and directed by his unerring Spirit; and he will make a way for us to see where & how we is to be our way, and hard things will be made easy. O little things above!

We have greatly desired, inasmuch as we are not ignorant how many are to be here this Lord for this very important duty, we may be favoured to know of a fulfilment of this blessed promise — that "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." If this shall prove our happy experience, we shall rejoice at such opportunities of presenting ourselves before Him; and in the silence of all flesh, for that he appeareth as never man yet spake: how precious is this stillness of the soul! we crave that we may be brought into it more and more. That He who has promised to back his people himself, may be witnessed in our hearts, not only when we are assembled for the purpose of worship, but when our hands are employed in our lawful avocations; and, though there may be seasons when the light of his countenance is veiled from us, yet if we abide in the faith, and in the patience, He will in everlasting kindness remember us.

With the salutations of love, we are Your Friends, signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun'r Clerk.

To North-Carolina.

Dear Friends.

Being permitted again to meet in our Annual Assembly, our distant brethren have been brought mind to our remembrance by the reading of their Epistles, and we have sweetly felt that the various portions of society, however widely they may be separated, are united in the fellowship of the Gospel.

In

In examining the state of society, we have had to lament that there are deficiencies amongst us in the support of some of our Christian testimonies, and in the due attendance of our meetings for worship and discipline. We have felt that we are called upon every where to greater dedication of heart to the service of the Divine Master, having the assurance that as we make Him the supreme object of our affection, and yield obedience to the teachings of his Spirit, we shall be found following in the footsteps of the flock of the companions of Christ; and that those precious testimonies which the Head of the Church has given us to bear, will be faithfully upheld, our light will shine more and more brightly, Zion will put on her beautiful garments, and increasingly become the light of the whole earth.

We have had at this time to advert to the example of our worthy predecessors in religious profession. Called as we believe they were to separate themselves from those religious connexions in which the light of primitive Christianity had become dimmed by the devices of men, and enabled as they were to hold up to the nations the spirituality of the Gospel dispensation, even at the sacrifice of all they held dear on earth, we have felt renewedly solicitous that our dear Friends of the present day may endeavour to follow them as they followed Christ. This is a time of much outward ease and favour to us; through the faithfulness of our predecessors in the Truth we are favoured with privileges that they were not permitted to enjoy. Other men laboured, and we are entered into their labours. May we duly prize these privileges;—may none of us thro' unfaithfulness bring reproach upon a cause for the promotion of which they laboured and suffered, and in some instances yielded up their lives.

The guarded education of our youth continues to be a subject of care and solicitude with us; and we have at this time felt that upon the faithful discharge of the duty we owe our beloved offspring will depend in no small degree the future prosperity of our religious society. The injunction of the wise king, "Train up a child in the way he should go, we have felt to be especially obligatory upon parents and teachers; and if this duty is conscientiously performed, we are assured that, when "old he will not depart from it. Upon parents and heads of families rests a very solemn responsibility: those tender plants are committed to their care, and for the performance of their duty towards them they must render an account at the last. They are to be trained up for usefulness in the Church and in the world, and directed, as a qualification may be experienced, to the guidance of that Spirit which will conduct them in the path of safety here, and prepare them for a translation from a state where human virtue is surrounded by trials to the scene of its everlasting triumphs.

We perceive by your Epistle that the subject of Slavery continues to claim your solid and

1843 and future consideration. We deeply sympathize with you in your solicitude to improve the suffering condition of those who are held in bondage. We are aware that you are surrounded with difficulties that seem at times to hedge up your way in prosecuting this labour of love; but dear Friends, be encouraged by the recollection that He who requires this service at your hands will give you strength as your day, and as your dependence is upon Him, will make a way where there appears to be no way, and in His own time will break every yoke and let the oppressed go free.

We have had at this time a report from the joint Committee of our own and of New York Yearly Meeting, appointed to inquire into the condition of the Indian Tribes, removed West of the Mississippi River, and to render them such assistance as way might open for. This report was accompanied by an interesting narrative of a visit of two of the Committee to twenty tribes and remnants of tribes of this deeply injured people, made during the latter part of last year; by which it appears that their situation is truly an affecting one. From the ravages of ardent spirits introduced among them by the cupidity of the whites, and from other causes, they are fast fading away; and if the hand of the destroyer is not stayed, they will soon be numbered among the nations that are no more.

Our Meeting has been favored, and the consoling evidence has been afforded us, that He who gathered us to be a people is still pleased in unmerited mercy to be with us; and though we have had to mourn the loss of some who have long stood as watchmen upon the walls, yet we have been comforted in the belief, from the weighty and solid deportment of some of our young men, that they are under the forming hand of Him who knows what vessels are needful in His house and that His mantle is descending from the aged, so that when those who now stand as pillars in the Church shall be called from works to rewards, there may be found coming forward in the fear and wisdom as at the first, & counsellors as at the beginning.

In Gospel love we remain Your friends & brethren,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting,
Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

We have been again permitted to meet in this our Annual Assembly, to transact the important concerns of Society, and have been introduced into feelings of deep solicitude that all things should be done to the honour of Truth and to the edification of the Church; and we can humbly acknowledge the goodness of the Lord in condescending to see him to be near to the encouraging and strengthening of many minds.

You

Dear Friends, we have been brought afresh to our remembrance by the reading of your acceptable epistle of 9th month last, as well as our brethren of other Yearly Meetings by the reading of similar communications from them; and we are sensibly confirmed, that Correspondence of this kind, under right engagement for the promotion of the one blessed cause of truth and righteousness has a tendency to stir up the pure mind by way of remembrance and to encourage to a more faithful maintenance of those precious testimonies given us as a people to bear.

The cause truly is not ours, but the Lord's who is head over all things to His Church, and as we look to Him for counsel and strength we shall be brought to feel with and for one another under the afflictions permitted in divine wisdom to come upon us, and being knit together in the Gospel shall be edified together in love. It is a day of peculiar trial to our stripped and peeled Society, and many minds have been at this time introduced into secret mourning, as between the porch and the altar, saying, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that we may witness the Truth of the apostolic declaration, that "tribulation worketh patience, & patience experience, and experience hope, and hope maketh not ashamed." We have a subtle enemy to contend with, who is never more successful in drawing us from the Truth, than when under a specious appearance he can separate us, one from another, dividing in Jacob and scattering in Israel; and we feel an earnest solicitude for ourselves and for our brethren every where, that all may be favoured in heights and in depths to dwell under the influence of Him who was manifested that He might destroy the works of the Devil.

Dear brethren, we have no new way to point out, no new doctrine to hold forth, but believe that as God is unchangeable, so is his great and adorable plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. I am the door of the sheep, said our blessed Saviour, and he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way the same is a thief and a robber. May we all strive to enter in by Christ the door, that we may be saved, and go in and out and find pasture.

The deep interest expressed in your Epistle for the guarded religious and literary instruction of the beloved youth, and the Christian concern for the welfare of the African race, and the aboriginal inhabitants of our land were cordial to our feelings; and we much desire your encouragement therein. A similar concern on these several interesting religious connexions to claim our attention, with desires that we may be found faithful labourers therein.

The deficiencies brought into view by the reading of the answers to the Queries, introduced this meeting into exercise, and much tender counsel and advice was imparted, tending we hope to stir up to more faithfulness in the support of our Christian testimonies. We are led to fear that too

many

1843. many in our Society are trusting too much in a mere profession. — May we, dear Friends, of every class, seriously consider the declaration of one of the inspired Apostles: "He is not a Jew which is one outwardly, neither is that circumcision which is outwardly in the flesh; but he is a Jew which is one inwardly, and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter, whose praise is not of men but of God."

May none think we have nothing to do, since so much has been done for us, through adorable mercy, without us; but be engaged to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling, knowing that it is God who worketh in us, to will and to do of his own good pleasure. Unless we yield obedience to the immediate teachings of the Spirit of Christ, and become regenerated by the baptising power of the Holy Ghost, in vain shall we look for the gracious welcome, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

We conclude in the words of the Apostle, Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope, through grace comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work.

With the salutation of love, we are, Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Shearman, jun^r Clerk.

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

Being permitted again to meet in this our annual assembly, we have encouraged our distant brethren, to desire that our hearts may be knit together in love, and that we may increasingly realize the truth of the declaration: There is one Lord, one Faith, and one baptism.

On this occasion, assembling to transact the affairs of the Church, and to labour for the best interest of our Society, and the promotion of those principles which our early Friends practically embraced, and to uphold that spiritual worship, comely order and government in the Church, into which we believe they were led by the influence of the Spirit of Christ, we have been afresh made sensible that in order to perform these important duties it is necessary for us to be concerned to live in daily watchfulness and lowliness of mind, looking singly unto the Head of the Church for ability to do His will.

A communication from your Meeting for Sufferings to ours, briefly setting forth the causes of the late deprivation within your limits, we have as your acceptable Epistle of last year, also read in this Meeting. We sympathize with you in the trial situation in which you are placed by the circumstances that have recently transpired within your borders. May we, for your encouragement, revive the

1843. language of our Epistle: "Be ye stedfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

In the defence of the faith, in which the living members of our Society have been engaged, the circumstances have varied at different periods. May we remember the patience meekness, and unshaken reliance on the Helper of this people, evinced by our forefathers, when they were assailed by misrepresentation by those who were unwilling to submit to that order and subordination which was instituted in the counsel of Divine Wisdom. How true to their trust were these watchmen how unremitting in their defence of the Truth.—

Dear young Friends, may you be preserved from the snares that are spread for your feet. As you yield unreservedly to the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit, you will be prepared to unite with your elder brethren in the varied exercises of the day, and become qualified to fill their places when they shall have entered those mansions prepared for the righteous from the foundation of the world.

During the consideration of the state of Society many deficiencies were brought into view, and pertinent counsel administered. Parents were enforced to a deep and lively engagement for the right training of their children, that being early taught to distinguish and regard the gentle intimations of the still small voice, this might continue to be a means of their preservation in riper years.

An essay prepared by the Meeting for Sufferings, on some of the prominent doctrines and testimonies of Friends was read, and being cordially approved, was adopted by the Meeting, direction made for its publication.

The report of our Committee on the concern of the Western Indians, was accompanied by an interesting narrative of their present circumstances and prospective condition, prepared by two of our Friends who on behalf of New York and New England Yearly Meetings have visited them during the past year. During the reading of which, feelings of commiseration for this interesting but much injured people, were awakened in many minds— and the attention of Friends is still continued towards them.

Our Meeting has been largely attended, and though in transacting the business that has come before us, we have not been without trials, yet we would gratefully acknowledge that our heavenly Helper has not forsaken us.

With the salutation of love we remain

Your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

1843

Summary of Answers to the Queries.— 6mo 1843.

(Omitted page 198.)

1st. All our Meetings for religious worship and Discipline have been attended; except a few small meetings, which were omitted principally, in consequence of bad travelling and the inclemency of the weather.— Those on First-days are generally attended by most of our members. Meetings for Discipline and other mid-week Meetings are more neglected. The hour is nearly observed. Mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of sleeping excepted. Some care been taken in the above deficiencies.

2d. It appears that most Friends are endeavouring to maintain love and unity, and to guard against detraction; yet there is a deficiency with some in these respects. Care has been taken to end differences when they have arisen.

3d. A concern is manifested by most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, to restrain them from pernicious reading and from corrupt conversation, and to be watchful over them themselves; yet some do not appear to be sufficiently engaged in these respects, and it is to be feared that the subject of improper Books does not receive from all that degree of attention that the importance of the subject deserves. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends families.

4th. Friends appear to confine the use of spirituous liquors, with a few exceptions, to medicinal purposes; and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns. Other places of public resort not so carefully guarded against by some as would be best. Moderation appears to be maintained on the occasions referred to. Some care taken in the above deficiencies.

5th. Generally careful in these respects, except a few instances of placing children from among Friends.

6th. Most Friends are careful to maintain our testimonies in regard to marriage; yet it appears that all do not manifest a sufficient regard for the Discipline in this respect.

7th. Friends are careful to maintain our testimonies in these respects, with a few exceptions of a military nature, and a few cases in which our testimony against a hireling ministry has not been fully supported. Some our salaried

8th. Friends are generally careful in the several parts of this Query, with a few exceptions, particularly in regard to punctuality in the fulfillment of promises.

9th. Our records are generally attended to, yet not without some exceptions as to births and deaths.— A few instances of removal without certificates, most of which are under notice.

10th. A good degree of care is taken to deal with offenders as queried, though not in all cases so decisively as would be best, and endeavours are used to place judgment according to Discipline.

1844.

1844 — At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship at Newport and Portsmouth, on first day, the 16th of Sixth Month, 1844, and at Newport for Discipline, on 2d day morning the 17th.

By accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings, we are informed that they have appointed the following Friends as Representatives to this Meeting, viz.

For Rhode-Island; Thomas Anthony, Rowland Greene, Thomas Howland, David Buffum, Nicholas Congdon, John Meader, Joseph Metcalf, David Shove.

Salem, Matthew Purinton, Abijah Johnson, Moses Greene, John Page, Edward Gove, Enoch Page, Hezd Chase.

Nathan Breed, of Lynn, Jonathan Nichols.

Sandwich, Samuel Gifford, Benj.ª Tabor, John Howland, Isaac R. Gifford, Calvin Shepherd, Prince Gardner, Cromwell Barnard, John Potter, Isaac Lawrence.

Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Caleb Hawkes, Elisha Jones, Samuel Jones, Caleb Jones, Nathan Pope, Nathan Douglas, John H. Minot. Smithfield, Daniel Clapp, Moses Varnum, John Allison Earle, Peleg Aldrich, James L.ª Fry, Smith Bailey, Edward Earle. Cassaltown, Clement Ratcliff, Edmund Gates, Paul Tabor, Elisha Jones, Jonathan Estes, Joseph A. Cole. Dover, Joseph Tuttle, Joseph Varney, Timothy Hanson. Sindley M. Hoag. Fairfield, Moses Wadsworth, Joseph Taylor, Ephraim Jones, William Farr, Samuel Taylor, jun.ª

Whose names being called, they were all present, except one from Sandwich, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was assigned.

Having at this time the company of our esteemed friend Joseph Bowne, of Butternuts M.ª Meeting, State of New-York, Jared Bellows, of Walnut Ridge M.ª M.ª, State of Indiana, Joseph Edgerton, of Somerset M.ª M.ª, Ohio, Charles Tabor, of Farnham M.ª M.ª in Lower Canada, and Joseph Haviland, of New Garden M.ª M.ª, New-York, Certificates of the unity of their Friends with their Ministry & present religious engagements, were produced and read.

Our friend Josiah Norris, of Milford M.ª Meeting, Indiana, Companion to Jared Bellows, and Paul Swarthwick, of Pem.ª M.ª Meeting, New York, companion to Charles Tabor, produced satisfactory minutes from their Meetings respectively.

The London General Epistle of the past year, with a communication from the same Meeting addressed to this, was received and read; — as was also an Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Ireland, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, with which we have had correspondence, with the exception of that of Virginia; this Friends which constituted it, having in consequence of the

1844 reduced state of their numbers, and with the advice and concurrence of neighboring Yearly Meetings consulted upon this interesting occasion, ceased to exist as a Yearly Meeting.

We have been strengthened and comforted in the belief that however widely scattered as to the outward, we continue to be one people, concerned for the promotion of the same cause. —

Thomas Howland, Rowland Greene, John Warren, George Howland, Wm Jenkins, John C Reader, Lindley M. Hoag, Samuel Pope, Jr., Milton Earle, Samuel Boyd, Toby, John Osborne, Isaac R. Gifford, Joseph Hoag, John D. Lang, Stanton Taylor, jun. Daniel Tabor, Elijah Johnson, Eli Jones, Caleb Jones, Lowell Hoxie, Wm H. Chase, Nathan Douglas, Lucy Thompson, Lowell Cadway, Gilbert Congdon, Walter Sawyer, Stephen Jones, jun. Lemuel Jones, Samuel Austin, Joseph H. Cole, Benjamin H. Jones, and Thomas Anthony. were desired to take said Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, to prepare essays of communications to these Meetings respectively, and present them at a future sitting or sittings.

It appears by the accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings, that the necessary care has been taken for the payment to our Treasurer of their respective proportions of Stock as directed last year. Thomas Hartshorn, Nathan Boyd, John Howland, Nathan Pope, John Osborne, Edm. Cole, Jonathan Lurne and Wm Tan were appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts — also to consider of and propose a sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year — and to propose a Treasurer — making report at a future sitting.

We learn by the accounts from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, that our beloved friend John Pease, of Great Britain, attended that Meeting in the 4th month last, in which his company and Gospel labours had been truly acceptable and edifying. — By Nassaboro' Quarterly Meeting, that this our dear friend had very acceptably attended most of the Monthly and particular meetings constituting that Quarterly Meeting — and by Vassalboro' that he had also attended most of the Monthly Meetings comprised in that Quarter, with most of the particular meetings constituting them — to good satisfaction.

We learn by accounts received at the present time from their respective Quarterly Meetings, — that Salem has united with Salem Mo. Meeting in the appointment of Enoch Page to the station of an Elder; and with Seabrook Mo. Mg. in approving the public ministry of Wm B. Thompson — that Sandwich has united with Sandwich Mo. Mg. in approving the public ministry of Ruth H. Baker, of Dartmouth — that Falmouth has united with Durham Mo. Mg. in the appointment of Rachel Jones to the station of an Elder; and in approving the public ministry of Lydia J. Tabb & Mary M. Varney, — that

Dr. Yearly Meeting Boarding School in acco[unt] with Allen Wing Superintendent Cr.

1844
4 m° 8th To Amt of expenditures since 4 m° 8th 1843 viz

Salaries		$ 2535.31
Books and Stationary		268.81
Labor		1440.45
Repairs and Furniture		1126.11
Fuel viz Wood 357.19		
Anthracite Coal 273.75		
Charcoal 67.64		698.58
Flour and Meal		746.39
Butter		333.08
Cheese		38.49
Meat		344.25
Fish		45.03
Grain		130.56
Bread		245.01
Sugar, Tea and Spices		225.89
Lamps and Oil		122.59
Vegetables		104.31
Molasses		148.11
Rice		13.56
Coffee		26.38
Medicines		29.66
Soap and Soda		67.87
Post office		38.98
Articles for Scholars		134.78
Money refunded		275.06
Incidentals	43.60	$ 9202.86
Balance to new account		154.13
		$ 9356.99

1843
4 m° 8th By balance on settlement $ 323.57
1844- 4 m° 8th Amt received from Treasurer during past year 5143.46
" " for board and tuition of Scholars 3795.05
" " articles sold 94.97
$ 9356.99

$ 9356.99

Cash on hand $ 154.13

Providence 4 m° 8th 1844-

(Signed) Allen Wing Superintendent

/o
4 12

EXTRACT

FROM THE MINUTES OF THE

Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England,

HELD ON RHODE-ISLAND,

From the 16th to the 21st, inclusive, of the Sixth month, 1844.

THE Annual Report of the Committee of this Meeting having the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence, was produced and read, and being satisfactory to us, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. From the Minutes of said Meeting,

A. SHEARMAN, jun. *Clerk.*

TO THE YEARLY MEETING.

The Boarding School Committee Report, That they have endeavoured during the past year to discharge the services entrusted to them by the Yearly Meeting, in superintending the various concerns of the Boarding School. The average number of scholars has been 55. Meetings have been regularly held in the house, and harmony has prevailed.

Our friends Allen and Olive Wing are engaged for the present year as Superintendents; and Charles Atherton and William Nicholson as Teachers in the Boys' School, and Mary Atherton and Elizabeth J. Aldrich in the Girls'.

The Treasurer's and Superintendent's accounts have been examined and settled, by which it appears that the income of the School from all sources has been $\$9{,}356\frac{99}{100}$, its expenditures $\$9{,}202\frac{86}{100}$, and that there is a balance in the Treasury of $\$5{,}220\frac{85}{100}$, the devise of our late friend Moses Brown of $\$5{,}000$, for the purchase of real estate, having been received during the past year; a part of which is due for the purchase effected agreeably to the will of the donor. For details of the receipts and expenses of the School, we refer to a copy of the Superintendent's account, herewith forwarded.

We would propose that the price for board and tuition be continued the same as last year: viz. $\$30$ per term for members of our Yearly Meeting, $\$45$ for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and $\$50$ for those of other Yearly Meetings. Books and stationary being furnished as at present. We also think it safe to propose that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar for the next winter term, free of expense, and Monthly Meetings are requested to exercise care in the selection of the scholars, to conform to the conditions of the will of the principal donor to the charitable fund, viz. that it be applied "for the schooling of such members of the Society as are actually poor, supported or not as such by the respective Monthly Meetings."

The Schools have been examined at the close of each term by a Committee appointed for that purpose; and from the last report of the visiting Committee we make the following extract: viz. "In the examination of the scholars, satisfactory evidence was given of their having made good proficiency in the studies in which they had been engaged. The knowledge and acquaintance manifested in some of the most important branches of education were such as to warrant the conclusion that there had been a very commendable degree of application on the part of the scholars, and faithfulness and assiduity on that of the teachers. The general appearance of the school was satisfactory, and the deportment of the scholars orderly, inducing a belief that usefulness continues to result from the Institution."

In review of the past year the Committee are brought to feel regret that the number of scholars has been less than in many former years. The object of the Yearly Meeting in establishing the School, that the children of Friends might receive a religious, guarded education, free from the contaminating influences of the world, may we believe be in a good degree attained by placing our children in this Institution. We therefore desire affectionately to encourage our fellow-members to avail themselves of the advantages to be derived from this School, that thus the concern and liberality of our departed Friends, who were instrumental in establishing and endowing it, and who are now gathered from works to rewards, may be to the benefit of the children of the present and succeeding day.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the School Committee,

THOS. HOWLAND, Clerk at this time.

Boarding School, 5th mo. 3d, 1844.

[The next Winter term will commence on Second-day 10th month 28th. The next Summer term, on Second-day, 4th month 28th, 1845.

1844 — that Smithfield has united with Uxbridge M°M°. in the appointment of Joel Hoag to the station of an Elder

that Cassaboro has united with China M°M°. in approving the public ministry of Hannah Crossman and of Martha J. Hodges; and in the appointment of John Cook & Mary Esle to the station of Elders; and with Unity M°M°. in the appointment of Deborah B. Warren to the same station.

— that Dover has united with the M°M°. of Sandwich, N.H. in the appointment of Susanna J. Bassett to the station of an Elder — and that Fairfield has united with Sidney M°M°. in the appointment of James Gifford; and with St. Albans in the appointment of David Douglas to the station of Elder.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met pursuant to adjournment.

Rowland Greene on behalf of the Representatives, informed the Meeting that they had conferred together on the subject of Clerks, and were united in proposing Nicholas Shearman, jun. for Clerk, and Samuel Boyd Tobey, for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting for the year ensuing, which being considered, was approved, and they appointed to those services accordingly.

The minutes of this Meeting for the past year, were then read.

The annual report of the Committee of this Meeting having the Superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence was produced and read, and being satisfactory to us, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. [For Report see printed copy annexed.]

The account of the Superintendent was also presented, and directed to be placed on file.

Rowland Greene, Thomas Rowland, Wm Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Joseph Metcalf, John Headen, Isaac R. Gifford, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Jones, Edward Gove, John Osborne, Jesse D. Lang, Benj. Fry, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Edmund Bates, John Warren, Samuel Taylor, jun. David Buffum, Stephen Jones, jun. Joseph Hoag, George Howland, Moses H. Beede, Olney Thompson, Jonathan Dame, Ezra Gould, Smith Bailey, Daniel Osborne, of Dover, Nicholl Harris, Nelson Sampson, and Caleb Hawkes — were appointed to consider of and propose at our future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Committee for the Government and superintendence of the Boarding School, for the year ensuing.

Jonathan L. Mowry, Walter Sawyer, Wm C. Taber, Thomas Tolson, Nicholl Harris, Caleb Jones, Sam'l Parker, Joseph Taylor, and John Paige, jun. were appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the Queries, received at this time, and present at our next sitting.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 18th. Met according to adjournment.

Representatives present, as yesterday.

The

1844 The account received by us at this time, from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, embraces the following information, viz. — John Wilbur having appealed to the Yearly Meeting from the judgment of this Meeting in confirming that of Greenwich Monthly Meeting in disowning him; we have appointed a Committee to represent this Meeting in the case. Whereupon we appoint our friends Daniel Gove, Moses Greene, Herod Chase — Lowell Hoxie, Mathias Gifford, Benjamin Tucker — Caleb Jones, John M. Lines, Elisha Jones — Richard Batty, Rowland Robinson, Edward Earle — Joseph Tucker, Joseph Nabor, Edmund Cates — Joseph Tuttle, Jonathan Dame, Walter Sawyer — Helon Sampson, Joseph Taylor, and Ephraim Jones — to take said Case into consideration, hear the Appellant, and the Committee of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, — and report their judgment thereon at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Again met.

We are further informed by Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, that Thomas S. Nichols has appealed to the Yearly Meeting from the judgment of that Meeting in confirming the decision of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting in disowning him; and that they have appointed a Committee to represent the Quarterly Meeting in the case. — It was referred to the Committee appointed this morning, to take said case into consideration, hear the Appellant and the Committee of the Quarterly Meeting; and report their judgment thereon at a future sitting.

The minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year, was laid before the Meeting and read. Followed by a new general expression of satisfaction on the part of Friends with the attention thereby manifested to the various important concerns that have occupied their attention.

It being thought best that a new appointment of a Meeting for Sufferings should take place at the present time, the Committee named yesterday afternoon to bring forward the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Committee for the superintendence and Government of the Boarding School at Providence, was also requested to produce at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as in their judgment may be suitable to comprise a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth-day morning, the 19th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment. — The names of the Representatives being called, they were present as heretofore.

Most of the present sitting has been devoted to a consideration of the State of Society, as spread before us by the reading of the Queries, and the answers thereto, received at this time

1844 from our several Quarterly Meetings — in which we have had the very acceptable and feeling aid of concerned Friends now with us from abroad; and are led humbly to acknowledge that it has been felt by us to be a season of refreshment from the Lord — the remembrance of which we much desire may be long treasured up, and profitably accounted to.

The following Summary of Answers, prepared by the Friends named to that service, was directed to be placed on record

Ans. 1. All our Meetings for worship and discipline have been held, with two exceptions, and generally attended on first-days by most of our members; those held in the middle of the week are much neglected by some. The hour is nearly observed. Clear of unbecoming behaviour with a few exceptions. Some instances of sleeping are noticed in the accounts from all our Quarterly Meetings. Some care taken in the above deficiencies. — 2. Love and unity are in a good degree maintained by most Friends — yet they appear to be much wanting in some. Retraction not fully guarded against. Endeavours are used to end differences when they appear. — 3. There is a care with most Friends to bring up those under their care in plainness; to restrain them from pernicious reading, and from corrupting conversation; and to be exemplary therein themselves, which a deficiency is apparent with some in these respects. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends' families. — 4. Friends are generally careful to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medical purposes, except in a few instances noticed in the Answers from four of our Quarterly Meetings; and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, but not without some exceptions. A good degree of moderation is maintained on the occasions referred to. — 5. United in the several parts of this County, except a few instances of placing children from among Friends. — 6. Most Friends are careful as to proceedings with respect to marriage; yet there are a few instances noticed of keeping company with those not in membership with us, and of marrying out. — 7. Friends are careful to maintain our testimonies in these respects with the exception of a few instances in which it appears that our testimony to the Gospel ministry has not been fully supported, and also two exceptions of a military nature. Some care taken. — 8. Most Friends are careful as to the several parts of this County, but not without some exceptions. Some care taken. — 9. Some deficiences are noticed as to our records and Certificates. — 10. Care is taken to deal with offenders as required, though not in all cases so seasonably as would best; and to place judgment according to discipline.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

4 afternoon met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed at a previous sitting to consider of and propose the names of such Friends as they might consider suitable to constitute a Committee for the Superintendence and Government of the Boarding School at Providence, now offered the following, viz. [see over]

1844 Jos. Lind. Jones, Arnold Congdon, Lemuel Jones, Reuben J. Robinson,
Nicholas Congdon, James C. Peg, Samuel Taylor jr. Wm. H. Chase,
Wm. Parker, Samuel Boyce, Joseph Tabor } Wm. C. Tabor,
Willet Allen, John Reeder, of Albion. } Abijah Johnson,
Jos. B. Metcalf, Daniel Shove, Caleb Sisson, Joseph Dean,
David Buffum, Wm. A. Robinson, Edward Earle, Neville Ordway,
Jon.a Dennis, Ebenezer Wing, Edmund Chase, Olney Thompson,
Wm. Howland, Nathan Read, Newell Hoxie, Tobey Meader,
John Osborn, of Lynn, James Dennis, Jonathan Dame,
Wm. Shearman, Jr. Benj.a Tyler, Jon.a L. Slocum, Tim.o C. Collins,
Thomas Jones, Moses H. Beedle, Abner Slade, Joseph H. Cole,
Thomas Sisson, John Howland, Nicajah C. Pratt, Allen Thompson,
Wm. Reynolds, Peter Lee, John Hussey, Charles F. Tucker,
Jon.a Boyd Tobey, Enoch Read, Edmund Tabor, Matthew Howland,
George Howland, John T. Young, Nathan Pope, Eli Jones,
Nathan Jones, Jun.r Sethia F. Mitchell, Daniel Tabor, Daniel Osborn 2d
Isaac R. Telford, Wm.m Burlet of Tiverton, Samuel Austin, of Dover.
Edw.d Wing, Thomas Harkness, Gilbert Congdon, Caleb Jones,
Jon.a Congdon, Gid.n C. Smith, Benjamin Greene.

Which being considered, was united with; and they accordingly appointed to this service for the year ensuing & till another appointment — to unite therein with a Committee of the Women's Meeting appointed for a similar purpose.

The devise of our late friend Moses Brown to this Meeting, for the benefit of its Boarding School, being a Note and Mortgage for Fifteen Thousand Dollars, against Joseph Haws, John Bacon, J. B. Wood and Henry Meader, having been paid during the past year, the Treasurer of the School Fund, William Jenkins, is hereby authorised fully to discharge said Mortgage on behalf of this Meeting.

John Howland and Wm. C. Tabor having attended to the various services required of them as by minute of last year, [records page 196,] in regard to the bequest made to this Meeting, by our friend Amy Greene, late of New Bedford, deceased, of one share in the capital Stock of the Bedford Commercial Bank, for the benefit of the Boarding School at Providence, — now produced the receipt of the Treasurer of the School Fund for a Certificate of said Stock, transferred to them — which receipt was, by the direction of the Meeting, placed in the hands of David Buffum, our Treasurer.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts and for other purposes, produced the following report, viz

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee to settle the Treasurers accounts, &c. Report, That we have examined and settled his account, and find a balance in his hands of $701.78. We would propose the sum of $1100. to be raised for the use of the Meeting the ensuing year, — and David Buffum for Treasurer.

Newport, 6m 19th 1844. Thomas Harkness,
For the Committee.

1844. which being considered, was satisfactory to Friends; and in conformity therewith, David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing. It was concluded to raise, as proposed, the sum of $1400. for the service of the year. — And our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward their respective proportions of this sum to our Treasurer, viz. Rhode Island 30 per ct. — Salem, 12½ — Sandwich, 30 — Falmouth, 4¾ — Smithfield, 12½ — Vassalboro' 2. — Dover, 6¼ — Fairfield, 2.

A Testimony of Weare Monthly, and Salem Quarterly Meeting, respecting our late beloved Friend Daniel Gove, was read, and being approved by the meeting it was directed that it should be recorded.

The subject of preserving interesting and important facts relative to the early settlement and progress of Friends in this Yearly Meeting, and the faithful maintenance of the Christian doctrines and testimonies of our religious Society, being brought under consideration, by the reading of the minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings, Friends of that Meeting now about to be appointed, were encouraged to pursue the subject in such manner as they may consider most conducive to the attainment of the objects proposed.

The Committee to which that subject was referred, proposed that the following Friends should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, viz.

Rowland Greene,	Thomas Anthony,	Arnold Congdon,	Joseph Taber
John Warren,	John Osborne,	George Howland,	of Albion,
Thomas Howland,	Wm Jenkins	Nathan Pope,	Wm C. Collins
Wm Shearman, Jr.	Jno. Dennis,	Sam'l Boyd Tobey,	Joseph Taylor
Esek Hazard,	David Buffum,	John D. Lang,	Beriah Collins
Matthew Purinton,	Elijah Chase,	Moses H Beck,	Olney Thompson
James C. Fry,	Perez Peck	Sam'l Taylor, jun	Jonathan Barker,
Edward Wing,	Wm Reynolds,	Edmund Chase,	of Scituate.
Francis Tabel,	Moses Farnum,	Allen Wing,	and
Benjamin Fry,	Joseph Metcalf	Samuel Boyce	Ch. F. Coffin
Nicholas Congdon,	John Meader	Silas Howland	

——— which was united with, ——— and they were accordingly appointed to that service for the year ensuing, or till another appointment, to act therein according to the original constitution of that Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 24th. Friends again assembled according to adjournment. Representatives present as before.

Being informed that our beloved friend Hadley H. Hoag has been liberated according to the usages of our Discipline, to perform a religious visit to Friends and others in Great Britain and Ireland, and also to some places on the Continent of Europe, as way may open for it, we appoint our friends John D. Lang, George Howland, David Buffum, Wm Jenkins, Sam'l Boyd Tobey, Daniel Osborn of Dover, Rowland Greene, Perez Peck and Samuel Taylor jun as a Committee with whom he may consult and advise on any subjects connected with this concern.

1844 The Committee on the concern of the Indians West of the Mississippi, produced the following Report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee on the concern of the Indians located West of the Mississippi, Report, That agreeably to the permission of the Yearly Meeting, as by minute of last year, they have caused to be printed, the Narrative of the labours of our Friends John D. Lang and Samuel Taylor, jun.r and had an edition of 3000 copies struck off for gratuitous distribution among Friends and others; a portion of which are now in the hands of our friend Francis Carr, of this place, where they may be obtained free of cost by Friends who may choose to call for them.

We united with a Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings, in preparing a Memorial to Congress in relation to the present state of the Aborigines, which was adopted by the two Meetings for Sufferings of New England and New York; and a joint Committee proceeded to Washington, to promote the objects contemplated in the Memorial, as will more fully appear by the records of the Mg.s for Sufferings.

Of the amount of money originally raised [for the objects for which this Committee was appointed] by the Yearly Meeting, £ 714.1 there remains unexpended in the hands of our Treasurer, $ 46.50 — which will no doubt be required in a further prosecution of the concern of the Yearly Meeting, should it be deemed best to continue a Committee for the purpose, and we are prepared to believe that usefulness has arisen, and will be yet further witnessed from the efforts of Friends in this interesting cause.

Having been informed that the Aborigines' Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings of London proposed to publish "Some acct "of the conduct of the religious Society of Friends towards the Indian "Tribes, in the settlement of the Colonies of East and West Jersey and "Pennsylvania, with a brief narration of their labours for the civiliz"ation and Christian instruction of the Indians from the time of "the settlement of Friends in that Land, to the year 1843," and requested to furnish them with an account of the labours of Friends of this Yearly Meeting, on behalf of the native Tribes of Indians. The work above mentioned has recently been printed, and a copy of it received by us; a synopsis of its contents we herewith present for the information of Friends.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6.m 17.th 1844. Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk.

which being considered, we are led to believe in the language of the Report, "that usefulness has arisen, and will be yet further witnessed from the efforts of Friends in this "interesting cause." And in the hope that the General Government may yet be prevailed upon to take the subject of the wrongs of the Indians into their serious consideration, & pass such laws for the amelioration and improvement of their situation, as may appear best calculated to promote these very desirable objects, the Friends now under appointment, viz Rowland Greene and others, [see page 124.] — with the addition of Samuel Taylor, jun.r John Osborne & Thos. Hoxie Jun.r were continued in this service, and were encouraged to embrace

1 The amount of the Yearly Meeting's donation for the Indians

1844 ever right opening for promoting the objects in view — with liberty to correspond, should way open for it, on this subject with similar Committees of other Yearly Meetings, & particularly that of New York, with which we have hitherto acted in concert in this concern.

The subject of returning Minutes for Friends now with us from abroad, was referred to the Committee on the Correspondence.

Our beloved friend John Pease, of Great Britain, having in the course of his religious visit to Friends and others in this country, been acceptably attended various Meetings within our limits, as appears by the accounts received at the present time from the Quarterly Meetings of Sandwich, Vassalboro' & Smithfield as well as by verbal information from Friends of other Quarterly Meetings; — and being arrested in his prospect of being present with us at this time, by being confined to a sick room, we have felt deep sympathy with him, under this privation to them as well as us — and it being apprehended that it may be right for him to receive from us some testimonial of the unity of this meeting with his Gospel labours within our borders, the subject claimed the solid feeling consideration of Friends, and was referred for further consideration to the Committee on the Correspondence.

Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meetings of Ireland and New York were introduced by the Committee on the Correspondence, and, being read and considered, were approved.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning, the 21st.

At the hour adjourned to, Friends again met. — — — —

Representatives present as heretofore.

The Committee having charge of the concern of this Meeting in relation to the Penobscot and Passamaquaddy tribes of Indians produced the following Report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting

The Committee having charge of the concern of this Meeting in relation to the Penobscot and Passamaquaddy Indians, Report, That the attention of the Committee during the past year, has often been turned to the subject of forwarding the objects of our appointment, tho' way has not opened for much active service. One of our number, however, has visited them, (the Penobscots) in most of their farming localities, and taken an Inventory of their crops, and obtained such other information as appeared needful, by which we are enabled to inform, that with several of them, there appears to be a steady improvement in the culture of their lands, and in the amount of their crops: Yet a few have been more remiss in these respects than heretofore: So that the aggregate of their produce falls a little short of the past year. Several of them have made some progress in building the past season, tho' but few have made such progress as to be entitled to the usual pecuniary aid from the Committee.

Subjoined is a Report of two of our Committee who visited the Passamaquaddy Indians the past year.

The undersigned having visited the Passamaquaddy Indians

Report,

1844. Rhat that we found but a small part of the Tribe at their old settlement on Pleasant Point. They have made some improvement in agriculture since they were visited in 1841. At that time we were informed that there were but 3 or 4 families living on their township, 60 miles in the interior. At the present time, the State's Agent informed us that there were 24 families living on the township. Some of them are beginning to raise live stock, such as cows, oxen, &c. This Tribe received from the state of Maine $258 the past year, as a bounty on their crops — $100 of which was drawn by those living at their new residence. While amongst the Indians, we disposed of $10, to some who were sick, who appeared to be in a destitute condition; and, since our return, $15 more has been forwarded to the Agent, for the purpose of supplying some of the most needy with seed.

Moses Tabor,
Vassalboro', 5mo 24th, 1844. 3 Joseph Tabor.

[P.S.] The Committee in looking forward are of the opinion that good might result to the Indians from the continued care of this Meeting, and that their attention be more particularly turned to the Passamaquaddy Indians.

Stephen Jones, jun.r
Newport, 6mo 20th 1844. 3 for the Committee.

Which being read, [together with a more extended report respecting the Passamaquaddy Tribe; a copy of which is annexed,] was satisfactory to Friends, and encourages us to believe, that usefulness will result from a continued extension of care towards this people. And that portion of the Report relating to the Passamaquaddy Tribe having excited a lively interest in the Meeting, the Committee was encouraged to carry out more fully the concern of Friends in relation to this Tribe. The Committee now undergo appointment, viz: John Warren, Caleb Nichols, Samuel Taylor, jr. Edmund Cates, Elisha Jones of Windham, Stephen Jones, jun.r John D. Lang, Rowland Greene, David Buffum, Wm. Jenkins, Joseph Tabor, Joseph Metcalf, Daniel Tabor, George Richardson, Moses Tabor, was continued for another year, with the addition of Eli Jones and John Meader. And our Treasurer was requested to hand our friend Samuel Taylor, jun.r the sum of $50, in furtherance of the objects we have had in view in this concern.

The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and Individual Members, produced the following Report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

"The Committee appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and individual members, Report, That we have endeavoured to labour in the ability afforded, for the preservation of love and unity among our members, and for the maintenance of the discipline and good order of our religious society. And we think it right to inform the Yearly Meeting, that in one or more of our monthly Meetings our Christian Discipline is not maintained to the honour of Truth, for the want of that love and unity among the members,

Report on the present situation of the Passamaquaddy Tribe of Indians, (appended to the Report of the Committee on Indian concerns in the State of Maine, presented to the Yearly Meeting, 6 mo. 1844.)

"The undersigned, appointed by the Yearly Meeting's Committee on Indian affairs, to visit the Passamaquaddy Tribe of Indians, accomplished that service in the 10th mo. last.

"We found them located in the town of Perry, on Point Pleasant, a small Peninsula on the American side of the St Croix River, a few miles from its mouth, where it presents much the appearance of a bay, being from 10 to 15 miles wide.

"The whole tribe numbered 378, when we were there, & live in small houses built in American style, some with two or more rooms, comfortably finished and furnished; some also had small barns, sheds, &c. of size to accommodate two or three cattle, and the necessary winter fodder. Their public buildings are a new Roman Catholic Chapel, which cost the State of Maine, $1300; an old Chapel now used for a store-house; tanning skins and the like; and a large School-house, occupied a few years since by an American Teacher, who we were informed was very zealous and assiduous in his endeavours to instruct the Indian children, and they for a season manifested a disposition to improve; but the confinement of the school room soon became irksome, which was manifested, not by a spirit of open violence to school government, but true to the Indian character, a restless disposition, impatient of restraint & subordination — watching their opportunity to escape from the school room, until the Master would frequently be left nearly alone; and consequently the school had to be abandoned. The house is now used for holding meetings to transact their public business, for weddings and other convivial parties, &c

"On our arrival, we first addressed ourselves to the Agent of the State for this Tribe, who lives in the vicinity of the Indian village, and from him gained much information that proved

very useful to us in our further proceeding. The Indian Governor and many of his people were absent, and the Agent told us that a majority of them were gone most of the year, hunting, fishing, trading, begging, &c. He also informed us that the Tribe were very poor, of the truth of which we had sufficient evidence upon visiting them; altho' as before mentioned all the families have houses, some of which are kept clean and comfortable, yet decay and want is every where visible, and too plainly shews that the means of obtaining a living are fast declining — situated as they are on a few acres of worn out land, without timber for fence or fuel; hunting nearly done, fishing in their way precarious, basket timber gone — in fine, their means of living ~~in~~ this old settlement are used up, and they must soon come to extreme destitution and suffering, unless a remedy is speedily applied for the existing evils and obstacles in the way of their advancement to a more suitable occupation of their time and labours — and this will be, in the opinion of the Agent and other candid persons in the neighbourhood, (with whom we fully concur,) by removing them to their Township, about 60 miles up the River, where there are now located 24 families of Indians of this Tribe, on separate lots, and some of them who have been the longest time there, have made considerable improvements in the way of clearing land and erecting buildings, and raise Grain, Potatoes and Pork for their families, and some to sell; also keep oxen and cows, and in the winter they employ themselves and teams in hauling logs. The Agent informed us that they manifested a commendable spirit of emulation and enterprise — vieing with each other in raising the best crops, &c. and further that the whole Tribe have a strong desire to own property in severalty, to have a title securing their lots to them individually, that they and their posterity may enjoy the benefits of their improvements in years to come. This we believe not to be a trait of Indian character generally, altho' we think it very necessary in view of permanently

benefitting their condition,— as all past experience shews, that pecuniary assistance rendered the Indians is generally worse than useless, unless they can thereby be induced to exert themselves and take an abiding interest in their own welfare.

We were gratified to hear from the Agent, (who we have good reason to believe is an honest, efficient officer, and takes a deep interest in their welfare,) that the Tribe, with a very few exceptions, are strictly temperate in the use of spirituous liquors, and that the few who indulge at all, appear to be very much ashamed of it; and the Agent thinks they might entirely leave it off, if they were removed to their Township, where they would not be surrounded with temptation. Formerly the proportion of deaths was much the largest among the males, occasioned by inebriety, but of late since they have left off the use of intoxicating drinks, the scale has turned the other way, and the mortality of the females is much the greatest— partly in consequence, however, of the extreme hardships and fatigue the females endure, without sufficient food— carrying heavy burdens of basket stuff, and birch bark for torch lights, a distance of 10 to 20 miles, oft times in inclement weather, which brings on consumption, a disorder to which they were formerly strangers.

1844 so essential to the right conducting of the weighty affairs of the Church. And we are united in judgment, that the welfare and best interest of the Society require the further extension of care by the Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,
John Osborne.
Ann Jones.

Newport, 6m° 20th, 1844.

Which being deliberately considered, was united with, and it being thought that usefulness will result from the appointment of a new Committee at the present time, it was referred to the Committee named at a previous sitting, (to being favoured the names of such Friends to constitute a School Committee,) to introduce at our next sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider can usefully compose a Committee for this purpose.

This Meeting having been brought under concern from an apprehension that there is some diversity of practice in our subordinate Meetings in relation to the administration of the Discipline, from the want of due clearness in the printed Discipline, or definite direction as to the mode of proceeding in its execution on some heads, and that a more full defining it in these particulars, will tend to the benefit of Society. We refer the subject to the Meeting for Sufferings, that if way should open for it, they may propose to our Meeting next year, for its consideration such explanations, alterations or additions, as may meet the concern of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. 4th mo. 18th.

The Committee appointed on third-day forenoon, the 18th, to take into consideration the case of John Wilbur's appeal from the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting in confirming the judgment of Greenwich Monthly Meeting in disowning him — made a Report, — signed by all the Committee except one — That having all attended to their appointment, they had heard the Appellant, and the Committee of said Quarterly Meeting, fully in the case, as acknowledged by the parties, — and that after a time of solemn deliberation, they had come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed.

Which after a time of deliberate consideration thereon, was united with, and accepted by this Meeting; and the judgment of said Meeting confirmed accordingly.

And John Wilbur being called in, agreeably to his request, the conclusion of the Meeting in his case, as embraced in the above minute, was read in his presence.

The same Committee, to which was referred the case of John Wilbur's appeal, having also been requested to take into consideration the case of Thomas F. Nichols' appeal from the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting in confirming the decision of Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting in disowning him, — made Report in his case, signed by

all

1844 all of the Committee, — that having attended to their appointment they had heard the Appellant and the Committee of said Quarterly Meeting fully in the case, as acknowledged by the parties; and after a time of deep exercise and solemn deliberation have come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed.

Which after a time of deliberation thereon was united with by this Meeting, and the judgment of said Meeting confirmed accordingly. And being informed that Thos. Pritchett did not desire to be called in, to hear the conclusion of this Meeting in his case, David Buffum was requested to give him on our behalf, the information of our conclusion, and report to our next Meeting.

The Clerk was directed to furnish Rhode Island Dy Meeting with copies of the Minutes embracing these conclusions.

Essays of communications to our friends of the Yearly Meetings of London, Philadelphia, Baltimore, North-Carolina Ohio and Indiana were produced and read at this sitting and being approved, were directed, (together with those to Ireland and New York,) to be transcribed by the Clerk, signed by him on our behalf, and forwarded to those Meetings respectively.

The Committee to which it was this forenoon referred to propose for our consideration the names of Friends to constitute a Committee to visit subordinate Meetings and Individuals, as may may open for it, produced the following, viz

John Warren,	Sam[l] & Boyce,	Percy Peckham,	Paul Taber,
Clement Rathbun,	Wm Sharman, Jr.	David Buffum,	Samuel Jones,
Sam[l] Taylor, Jr.	Geo. Howland	Daniel Taber	Edm[d] Chase,
Wm Hart,	John Osborne,	Stephen Jones Jr	Joseph Metcalf
Nathan Pope,	James N. Fry	Wm Jenkins,	Percy Thompson,
Tho[s] Jones,	Rowland Greene,	John Macomber,	Cromwell Barnard,
John D. Lang,	Tho[s] Howland,	Allen Wing,	Isaac Lawrence
Joseph Battey,	Tho[s] Anthony,	Sam[l] Boyd Tobey,	John W. Mitchell,
John Paige,	Edward Wing,	Edmund Carter,	Edward Grant,

Which being considered, was united with; and they appointed to that service, ~~to labour therein as may may open, and ability be afforded,~~ — to extend a general care on our behalf, for the preservation of love and unity among our members, the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the support of the Discipline of the Church, and in the ability that may be afforded them, to assist and advise such Meetings and Members as circumstances may require, & way open for, under the direction of best wisdom. And it was requested to report to our next Yearly Meeting.

The Committee to which was referred the subject of returning Minutes for Friends now with us from abroad, proposed the following, which were united with, and the Clerk was directed to sign them on our behalf, viz.

Minutes were furnished to our Friends Joseph Bowne, Jared Patterson, Charles Tabor, and Joseph Haviland, agreeably to the direction of the meeting. — also to Josiah Morris, company to Jared Patterson; but am unable to find among the papers, the essays prepared by the Committee.

A. L. jun.

The Committee on Correspondence, to which was also referred the subject of preparing a testimony of this Meeting concerning the religious labours of our beloved friend John Pease, within our limits, presented the following minute which was united with, and the Clerk was directed to furnish him with a copy of it, signed on our behalf, viz.

"To the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, and the Meeting of Ministers & Elders of London Yearly Meeting.

"Dear Friends,

"We have received at this Yearly Meeting, information from several of our Quarterly Meetings, and also from the Representatives in attendance of this Meeting, that our beloved friend John Pease has visited many of the Meetings of Friends within our limits. It is with deep regret that we have learned that he has been prevented from attending this Meeting by bodily indisposition. Much sympathy has been felt with him on this account, and fervent have been our desires that, if consistent with the Divine Will, he may be restored to health, and strengthened to accomplish all the service assigned him in our hand; and when fully released from further labour here, that he may be restored in safety to his dear family and to you, with the reward of peace.

"We believe it right, notwithstanding he is not present at this Meeting, to inform you that his Gospel labours, whose lot has been cast among us, have been truly acceptable and edifying, and his demeanour and conversation consistent and instructive, manifesting a humble and watchful care to follow the leadings of the Heavenly Shepherd, under which he has been favoured to experience preservation, and to move forward in the full unity of the Brethren."

[Signed by the Clerks of both Meetings.]

The Clerks was authorized to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already provided for, & sign them on our behalf.

"While we have been brought very sensibly to feel during the several sittings of this Meeting that the present continues to be a season of trial to the Church, yet we do humbly acknowledge that we have witnessed, as we trust, the canopy of Divine good to be from time to time spread over us; under a grateful sense of which we now conclude, — proposing to meet on this Island at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, Jun. Clerk.

1844

Reports on cases of Appeal, as Presented to the Yearly Meeting, 6 mo. 1844.

To the Yearly Meeting of New England now in session.

We of your Committee appointed in the case of John Wilbur's appeal from the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, having all attended to our appointment, Report, That we have heard the Appellant and the Committee of said Quarterly Meeting fully in the case, as acknowledged by the parties, and after a time of solemn deliberation have come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed, — which we submit to the Meeting.

Newport, 6th mo. 20, 1844.

Daniel Gove,
Moses Greene,
Hezd Chase,
Newell Hoxie,
Mathiah Gifford,
Caleb Jones,
John W. Minot,
Elisha Jones,
Richard Bailey,
Rowland Rathbun,
Edward Earle,
Joseph Hacker,
Joseph Tabor
Edmund Cates.
Joseph Tuttle.

Jon.a Dame,
Walter Sawyer,
Alden Sampson,
Joseph Taylor,
Ephraim Jones.

To the Yearly Meeting now in session.

We your Committee appointed in the case of Thomas S. Nichols appeal from the judgment of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, having all attended to our appointment, Report, that we have heard the Appellant and the Committee of said Quarterly Meeting fully in the case, as acknowledged by the parties, and after a time of deep exercise and solemn deliberation, have come to the conclusion that the judgment of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting ought to be confirmed, — which we submit to the Meeting.

Newport, 6th mo. 21, 1844.

Daniel Gove,
Moses Greene,
Hezd Chase,
Newell Hoxie,
Mathiah Gifford,
Benjamin Tucker,
Caleb Jones
John W. Minot,
Elisha Jones,
Richard Bailey,
Rowland Rathbun,
Edward Earle,
Joseph Hacker
Joseph Tabor,
Edmund Cates.

Joseph Tuttle,
Jon.a Dame
Walter Sawyer,
Alden Sampson,
Joseph Taylor,
Ephraim Jones.

Compared,
2 mo 11, 1845.
A. J.

1844

Epistles
from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England
held at Rhode Island from the 16th to the 21st inclusive
of the Sixth Month, 1844,
to the Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

We have again the privilege of assembling as a Yearly Meeting, and again salute you in the unchangeable love of the Gospel. Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been received, and you have been brought very near to us in the reading of it, under a fresh sense of that blessed fellowship that is witnessed by those who, however remotely situated as to the outward, are engaged to walk by the same rule and mind the same thing, and who are necessarily builded and established on the one sure foundation, Christ Jesus, the Rock of Ages. May it be granted unto us all that nothing shall move us from this foundation.

You allude in your Epistle to us, to the concern for the Aborigines of our country. It may be satisfactory to you to be informed, that we have been engaged, through our Meeting for Sufferings, to plead the cause especially of those now situated West of the Mississippi River, before the constituted authorities of the Government, during the past Winter, and although we have not yet effected the full purpose of our engagement, yet we feel encouraged in the belief that an impression for good has been made upon our Legislators, and that as we continue in the ability that may be given us, to press the subject faithfully home upon them, our efforts will not prove in vain. We also continue to endeavour to extend some care and aid to the Penobscot and Passamaquaddy Tribes, situated most immediately within our borders; and are encouraged to continue our efforts to do them good, from some evidence that they have not been in vain.

We notice with satisfaction, your unabated concern in relation to Slavery as it exists in the Southern States of this Union. We can confidently say to you, that we believe that Friends constituting the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent do deeply feel the enormity of the evil, and are engaged to be found faithful in discharging their whole duty in this respect. We are comforted in the persuasion that there is an increasing number up and down in our Land, who have been brought to feel the evil, and to deplore its existence, and we do humbly trust that the day is approaching, when the yoke of the bondmen will be broken, and the oppressed will go free.

Our Meeting at this time has been very fully attended, and various have been the weighty concerns that have claimed our attention. It is a season of trial with us. The spirit that would lay waste — that would scatter and divide, has

1844 been seen and felt to exist among us — and the prayer of many has been put up; Lord, spare thy people and give not thy heritage to reproach. — And it is, dear Friends, with bowed hearts we can acknowledge, that we have had gracious[ly] evidenced to us at this time, that the Ancient of Days hath remembered us; and under, as we reverently believe, the all prevailing power of the Holy Head, the affairs of Truth have been satisfactorily attended to, and the Discipline of the Church has been administered and maintained, we trust in a good measure of that Spirit in which it was instituted — to the Lord be the praise.

With fervent desires that we may all abide in watchfulness unto prayer, and in humble dependence upon the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel, we bid you farewell, and remain, Your Friends and brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun[r] Clerk.

Our Correspondents with your Meeting, are

David Buffum, Newport,
William Jenkins, Providence,
Thomas Howland, East-Greenwich,
Abraham Shearman, jun[r] } Rhode-Island,
New Bedford, Massachusetts.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

We have to commemorate the goodness and mercy of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd, in again permitting us to meet in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, to deliberate upon the important concerns connected with the welfare of the Church, and from time to time, we have experienced that He still condescends to cover us with the canopy of his love, and as we have endeavoured to abide under its precious influence, our hearts have flowed with [that] love to you, our dear distant Brethren, which many waters cannot quench. Wonderful indeed is this love, and when perfected in true and living faith, how does it purify the heart? Oh! that all might come under its subduing and ever blessed influence, — then would each esteem other better than himself, and there would be nothing to hurt or destroy in all the earth. Much we have to regret, that for the want of this, many deficiencies still exist among us, causing the living often to inquire, "Why is not the health of the daughter of my people restored?" Surely there is balm in Gilead, there is still a Physician there, who remains as in days of old, "the Hope of Israel, and the Saviour thereof in time of trouble," and [to] all who truly love Him, He is indeed precious. We feel to commend to our dear brethren, every where, to cherish this sound and holy principle, believing it is all that can preserve us in one united bond of brotherhood.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 5th month last year, together with one from each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends with which we are in correspondence, have been received

1844 and read to our comfort and encouragement, and we have believed that this correspondence, while maintained in simplicity and singleness of purpose, will continue to be blessed unto us, and be a means of establishing us in that holy faith once delivered to the saints.

Our Meeting has been large, and though we have not been without our trials, we feel that we have abundant cause to take courage, and feelingly to adopt the language, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us." Under a grateful sense of which, we bid you an affectionate farewell, and remain

Your Friends and brethren.

Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharpless, jun. Clerk.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Comp. We have been again favored to assemble as a Yearly Meeting, and can acknowledge the receipt of an acceptable Epistle from you, and from each of the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond. It is our fervent desire that this Epistolary correspondence may be conducted as in ancient days, in that spirit of Gospel love, which will tend to bind together, and to build each other up in the most holy faith. And it is, we trust, in a measure of this spirit that we now salute you as brethren for whom, as for ourselves, we are engaged to pray that you may witness preservation, and a sure establishment on the immutable foundation.

Our Meeting this year has been largely attended, and many of our dear young Friends have been with us, some of whom have given comforting evidence that they have in good measure yielded themselves into the forming hand of the divine Master, and are becoming prepared for service in his Church.

Among the interesting subjects that have claimed our attention, has been that of the religious guarded education of our children. And the hurtful effects of mingling with others in mixed schools, have been feelingly spread before us; and Friends have been encouraged to spare no reasonable exertions to place their tender offspring in select Schools, where they may be preserved from the contaminating influences to which they might otherwise be exposed. We have cause to believe that our Boarding School has been productive of much good in this respect, to not a few of the Youth of our Society. The all important duty of diligently attending our religious Meetings, both on first-days and in the middle of the week, has been a subject of deep concern, and we have fervently desired that all might be impressed with the solemn truth, that they who neglect this duty among us are not giving evidence of observing as they should do, the first and great commandment, and are likely to decline in other respects. The faithful practical maintenance of our Christian views as to the spirituality of divine worship, we feel to be an imperative duty, and of vital moment to us as a people, at the present day, and we crave that Friends among us, and you and every where, may in no way swerve from it.

1844 We believe it right for us reverently to acknowledge that we have had gracious evidence that the arising of imminent Goodness has been spread over us from season to season during the progress of this Meeting: and under us we humbly trust, the guidance of that Wisdom that is profitable to direct, the affairs of Truth have been attended to, and the Discipline of the Church maintained. And although we have our trials and conflicts various ways, which has brought your situation in former years, very fresh to our remembrance, and in which you had our deep sympathy; yet we have been enabled at this time reverently to thank God and take courage, under a comforting persuasion that no weapon formed against those who put their trust in the Lord will ever prevail.

Dear Friends, accept in this brief Epistle, the salutation of our tender love, with an expression of our earnest desire that you and we may individually and collectively know an engagement to watch unto prayer, that the grand deceiver of man may not be permitted to come in and spoil our goodly heritage: —

Farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To New York.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle of 5.th mo. last was received and read at this time to our encouragement, affording renewed evidence that our Epistolary correspondence is a means of strengthening the bonds of our Christian fellowship.

We believe it remains to be a truth, that the true Church is one body; "for as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body being many, are one body, so also is Christ. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, and have been made all to drink into one Spirit." [1 Cor. xii. 12. 13.]

It is these baptized members of the body who can sustain such cases in the love of the Gospel, being companions in tribulation, they are in mercy at times permitted to partake together of the refreshings that come from the presence of the Lord. — And although they may often be brought into suffering for their blessed Master's cause, yet they are comforted in remembering the language of the Apostle, "Unto you it is given on behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake." — These tribulated followers of the Lamb know what it is to retire oftener than the morning, to the place where prayer is wont to be made. Precious indeed is the privilege to be permitted to draw near to the Source of Good, and there under a humbling sense of our own nothingness, put up our petitions to the throne of grace for preservation from the snares and temptations that beset our path, and for strength to move forward in the way of Divine appointment. And we have greatly desired, that we may all be encouraged to seek these seasons of retirement & inclination of mind. We believe, as we are concerned day by day, thus to prostrate ourselves at the foot-stool of Divine mercy, that

we

1844 we should know of being fed with the bread that cometh down from God out of Heaven and nourisheth up the soul into everlasting life. In the enjoyment of this blessed privilege, our brethren would become endeared to us, and desires would often be raised in our hearts, that they might all come to participate in the like precious faith, of which we in mercy had in a measure been made partakers. And as we were thus engaged to remember each other in our approaches to the throne of Grace, we should be more and more desirous of becoming each other's helpers in the Lord, of bearing each other's burdens, and thus fulfilling the law of Christ. Evil surmising, and evil speaking, would thus be removed from among us, and we should come to have fellowship one with another and witness the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse us from all sin.

But we have ardently craved that we may ever remember that it is only as we are made willing to deny self in all its appearances, and cast down all our crosses, and come under the dominion of the Prince of Peace, that we can know of thus partaking of the blessings of the Gospel.

We are comforted in believing there are many, both among you and us, who know these things experimentally, and we would encourage all both old and young, to continue to seek an acquaintance therewith.

We have at this time had the company of many of our beloved young Friends, some of whom are giving evidence that they are taking upon them the yoke of Christ. We desire that these may all be made willing more and more, to take up their daily cross, and endeavour to live in the Fear of the Lord, and come to witness His fear, to be a fountain of life, that preserveth from the snares of death.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have gratefully to acknowledge the overshadowings of divine love during the several sittings thereof. And although trials have been permitted to await us, yet we believe the Great Head of the Church has been pleased to own our endeavours for the promotion of his cause, with signal tokens of his love, and to give us an evidence that we are under his care.

It is indeed a comforting reflection, that the Church of Christ is never more the object of Divine regard, than in the time of her deepest tribulation — "When thou passest thro' the waters, I will be with thee, and through the rivers they shall not overflow thee: When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flames kindle upon thee." Let us all be encouraged then to press forward, remembering it is the Lamb and his followers shall have the victory.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends, signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, jun.r Clerk.

1844. To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

Under a renewed sense of the continued goodness of the Shepherd of Israel and of that love which unites into one body all the living members of the Church of Christ, we again salute you as dear Brethren. Your acceptable epistle of 10th mo. last and similar ones from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, have been read at this time; by which our distant brethren have been afresh brought to our remembrance and desires have been begotten in our minds, that we all may be concerned to build upon that sure foundation, Christ Jesus, the Rock of Ages. In reviewing the state of Society as brought before us on this occasion, we have had to lament that there are deficiencies amongst us in due maintenance of some of our Christian testimonies, which introduced the meeting into exercise; and concerned Friends were enabled feelingly to exhort to greater dedication in the cause of our Divine Master.

We have felt concerned that our dear Friends wherever situated, may come up in the faithful discharge of the solemn duty of assembling together for the purpose of unitedly rendering that homage to our Father in Heaven which is his due. If we are remiss in the attendance of our religious meetings, it is a practical evidence that we are not concerned to fulfill the first and great commandment, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength; and if a spirit of detraction finds place amongst us, the second commandment is also disregarded — Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

The Aboriginal and Unfortunate Tribes of Indians continue to claim our sympathy, and to receive some care from us. We have the satisfaction of believing from the report of the Committee having care of the concern, that these Tribes are steadily, though slowly, improving in the arts and habits of civilized life. And we trust that the efforts of Friends in prosecution of the concern of this Meeting, to meliorate the condition of those Tribes West of the Mississippi have been instrumental in calling the attention of the constituted authorities of our Government to the subject in such manner as to encourage the hope that some measures will be adopted to prevent the abuses practised upon this deeply injured people, and to promote their social and intellectual improvement. We are very sensible of the benefit they have derived from your efforts in their behalf, and earnestly desire your encouragement in this good work.

The subject of the guarded education of our children has been feelingly viewed at this time, and Friends have been encouraged to spare no reasonable exertion to give the rising generation amongst us a religious and liberal education, free from the contaminating influence to which they are too frequently exposed in mixed schools. On the rightly training, dear Friends, of our beloved offspring depends in no small degree the future welfare and prosperity of our

1844 religious society. The sentiment of the wise man is one upon which we should often and seriously reflect: Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

We have had our trials at this time, but a comfortable evidence has been afforded us that the Head of the Church does still deign to condescend low, to be with his People, and that his ancient promise will be verified, that the seed of Jacob shall not seek him in vain.

Our assembly this year has been unusually large, and many of our dear young brethren have been with us, whose solid deportment has afforded the comfortable evidence that they are under the forming hand of Him who alone can prepare them for service in his Church — that when the fathers who have long borne the heat and burthen of the day, shall be removed, the sons may be prepared to enter into the vineyard of labour; that so a succession of standard bearers & valiants for the Truth may be raised up, prepared to follow the Captain of our salvation wherever he may be pleased to lead them.

With a renewed salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To North-Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Being again assembled in a Yearly Meeting capacity, we have had abundant cause to believe that the Lord is near to do us good.

The reading of your acceptable Epistle at last year has afresh reminded us that we are one people; and we believe that as we are individually concerned to wait upon the Lord in the silence of all flesh, we shall experience our strength to be according to our day, and be enabled to run with patience the race set before us. As we are daily engaged to maintain the watch, and to walk in the path of self-denial, the times set apart for Divine worship will be precious to us, and we shall not only regard it as our bounden duty, but also esteem it a high privilege to meet together to worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth. And when in seasons of solemn retirement our minds are raised above all perishable things, and centered on the above object of worship, our hearts will be filled with humble gratitude to the Shepherd of Israel for his many blessings, and especially for that spiritual strength we receive from Him, by which alone we can be preserved.

The Committee having the superintendence of our Boarding School made a satisfactory report, and we are indeed to hope that the interest in this Institution long felt by many Friends will be increased, and its benefits still more extensively diffused amongst us.

It appears by the minutes of our Meeting for Sufferings that a variety of interesting subjects had claimed the attention

1844 of that body during the past year and amongst them that of memorializing Congress, in conjunction with the Meeting for sufferings of New York Yearly Meeting, in relation to the interests of the Aborigenes of our country, located west of the Mississippi. The Memorial was transmitted to Congress by a Committee of New-York and New-England Meetings for sufferings. The Committee was kindly received, and assurances were given by the constituted authorities of their co-operation in any measures calculated to improve the condition of these long neglected people.

On considering the state of society as exhibited by the answers to the Queries, deficiencies were found to exist, and much instructive advice was imparted by exercised friends. The paramount obligations we are under to love the Lord above all, and our neighbour as ourselves, and also the responsibility that rests upon parents in the discharge of their duty to their children, were feelingly and affectingly brought to our view.

With the salutation of love, we remain Your Friends,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Through the extension of Divine regard we have been privileged once more to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity, in which, although trials have been permitted to await us, we have from time to time been blessed with the presence of the Great Head of the Church, by whom renewed ability to conduct the various important and interesting concerns that have claimed our attention, has been mercifully extended unto us.

Our Meeting has been unusually large, and for the many special favours which we have received during its various sittings, we have felt the tribute of thanksgiving to arise to the fountain of all our blessings; and renewed and living desires have arisen in our hearts, we humbly trust, in the love of the Gospel, on account of our dear brethren in other portions of the Lord's vineyard, for whom, as for ourselves, we have craved wisdom and strength, to build upon the one eternal Foundation which never was shaken; that being established thereon, we may be able to stand in the day of trial, and testify that we know our Redeemer liveth, and because he lives we live also; and that the life which we now live in the flesh, we live by the faith of the Son of God. One distinguishing feature in the principles of the Gospel is, that they remain ever the same; and in addressing you at the present time we feel that we have no new doctrines to set forth. We believe that it was through the inshinings of the Light of Christ upon the heart that our

worthy

1844 worthy predecessors in the Truth were called from the various denominations of professing Christians and from the world, and united together for the purpose of bearing testimony to the spirituality of the Gospel dispensation. We believe that the various Christian testimonies which we as a Society feel bound to maintain, had their origin in these principles, and it was through the instrumentality of this Light, that our predecessors felt themselves called upon to support them; and, dear Friends, notwithstanding it is a day of weakness and shortcoming, we are thankful in believing that there are many among you and us, who feel bound faithfully to maintain these principles and testimonies, unmutilated by the contrivance of man.

Our Meeting for Sufferings for the past year has been favoured so to act upon and conduct the various subjects that have been brought before them, as to receive the full approbation of this Yearly Meeting. They have, in connection with the Committee on Indian affairs, been engaged in endeavouring to carry out the Christian and benevolent concern of this Meeting toward the oppressed and suffering people, who are the objects of this concern, by memorializing the National Government, (in conjunction with the Meeting for Sufferings of New York Yearly Meeting,) in relation to their interests; and we cherish a hope that their labours herein may be ultimately blessed.

The Committee having the superintendence of our Boarding School at Providence made a satisfactory report, in the reading of which this Meeting was introduced into a feeling concern for the beloved Youth, with an earnest desire that this interesting portion of our Society may receive a guarded and religious, as well as literary Education, free from the contaminating influences that abound in most of the mixed Schools.

With strong desires that we may individually and collectively experience an establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth, we conclude, and are Your Friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting.

Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk.

To Indiana

Dear Friends,

Being permitted again to convene in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, our absent brethren have been affectionately brought to our remembrance. We have been comforted in believing that the Great Head of the Church is still mindful of his people, and that it is his gracious design to do them good; that He will continue to bless the mission of Zion, and satisfy her poor with bread. Very encouraging, dear Friends, is His promise to the Church — "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee; when thou passest through the waters I will be with thee; and tho' the floods they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Though with you, we have to admit

1844 the sweetness of reconciliation, we feel bound gratefully to acknowledge that we are also made partakers of the Lords mercies. We rejoice that the loving members of Christs Church, however remote, are oftentimes permitted to become one in their holiness in the Lord. We sympathize with you, dear Friends, in your recent trials. May you be exalted patiently to abide in Him who is ever near to His people in the time of their greatest tribulation. For in the time of trouble He will hide them in His pavilion — in the secret of His tabernacle will He hide them. He will set them upon a rock. He is indeed said to be One that is mighty to save, and able to deliver to the utmost, all that come unto God by Him.

Our meeting on the present occasion has been large, and the company and services of several concerned friends from other Yy. Meetings have been very acceptable and strengthening to us. We notice your recognition of that Divine Power that has from time to time been witnessed amongst us from the first gathering of our religious Society. We can feelingly respond to this acknowledgment. We have had upon the present occasion, renewed evidence that the Wing of Ancient Goodness is extended over us, and that the Lord deigneth to teach His people Himself.

Our Committee appointed to extend a care towards the Indians within our borders, and to the tribes located West of the Mississippi, have presented interesting reports of their labours. Our Meeting for Sufferings has during the past year, in connexion with that of New-York Yy. Meeting, memorialized Congress on behalf of this interesting and much injured people. We notice with much satisfaction your efforts in their behalf, and desire your encouragement therein; and we cannot doubt that a blessing will rest upon your labours in this work of benevolence. A Report was presented from our Committee having charge of the Boarding Schools. We believe that this Institution continues to exert a beneficial influence upon our religious society; and Friends were encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunities here afforded for imparting to our children a useful education free in good measure from the contaminating influences of the world. x We have at this time been renewedly sensible of the responsibilities devolving upon parents; and the force of good example, as well as the beneficial effects of practical piety in the domestic circle have been feelingly presented to our consideration. In connection with this subject Friends were encouraged to the frequent perusal of the Holy Scriptures in their families, and in endeavouring to impress upon their tender charge the accordance of our doctrines and testimonies with its sacred contents.

Dear Friends, Farewell: —

We commend you to God and to the word of his grace which is able to build us up, and to give us an inheritance amongst them who are sanctified.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Sharman, jun. Clerk

x A paragraph accidentally omitted in this place will be found at the top of the next page.

The consideration of the state of Society, as brought to view by the returns from our several Quarterly Meetings has been a subject of much interest to us, and valuable counsel has been imparted by concerned Friends in attendance, and we trust that their labours of love have been to the edifying of the body.

1845.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England held on Rhode-Island, commencing with public Meetings for Worship at Newport & Portsmouth on First-day, the 15th of the Sixth Month, 1845, — and at Newport for Discipline, on 2d day morning, the 16th.

By accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings, we are informed that they have appointed the following Friends as Representatives to this Meeting, viz.

For Rhode-Island, Joseph Metcalf, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, David Ruffum, David Shore, Oliver Earle, John Meader, Perry Peck, Beriah Collins. * For Salem, Jon.a Nichols, Estes Newhall, John Page, Moses Huntington, jun.r — Oliver D. Rogers, Abijah Johnson, Enoch Page, Herod Chase, Nathan Breed, of Lynn. For Sandwich, Isaac Lawrence, John Haviland, Wm. C. Taber, Prince Gardner, Jos.h Eddy, Samuel Slade, Benjamin Tucker, Isaac R. Gifford, Lemuel Gifford, Moses T. Rogers. For Falmouth, Thomas Jones, John W. Minot, Caleb Jones, Nathaniel Stephens, Nathan Pope, Elisha Jones. For Smithfield, Daniel Rapp, Joel Marsh, James M. Fry, Moses Farnum, Benj.a Wheeler, John Osborne. For Nassaboag, Joseph Tabor, Stephen Jones, jun.r Joseph H. Cole, William Ritchie, Peter M. Stackpole, Clement Rackliff, Elijah Mussey. For Dover, Joseph Tuttle, Timothy Hanson, Benj.a Fry, Jacob R.d Purinton, Walter Sawyer. For Fairfield, Allen Wing, Joseph Taylor, Frederick Swan, Ezekiel H. Bean, David Douglas.

Whose names being called, they were all present — but three, for whose absence satisfactory reasons were assigned.

Since reading the opening minute, another paper addressed to "New-England Yearly Meeting of Friends," having been laid upon the table, purporting to be an account from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, wherein Obed.h Foster, Oliver Chase, John Mitchell, Thomas R. Gould, Nathan Ruffinton, John T. Kenyon, Sam.l Sheffield, Harvey Chase, & Charles Perry, are named as Representatives to said Meeting, whose names being called, it appeared that they were all present. — Which account was signed by Ch.s Perry, Assistant Clerk.

There was also laid upon the table, a paper, purporting to be "Extracts from the Minutes of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, relating to Swansey Monthly Meeting." — and signed by David Buffum, Clerk.

* Rhode-Island, with satisfactory reasons
o Salem, after first reading, with reasons satisfactory
" Falmouth, after first reading, with reasons satisfactory

Note: names of Representatives from R.I. Quarterly Meetings were entered from the account signed by David Ruffum, Clerk. The account is presented on field with the accounts from the other Quarterly Meetings. (C.P.H.)

1843. ...ted in order for the determination of the question which of the two bodies claiming to be Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting is the legitimate Meeting — after a time of free expression of sentiment, it was decided, as the sense of the Meeting, /independent of those claiming to be members of Rhode-Island Quarter,/ to refer the consideration of the case, to a Committee consisting of the Representatives to this Meeting, now present from the several Quarterly Meetings, except Rhode-Island, — and the Friends from the two bodies, as Representatives to this Meeting from Rhode-Island, are, requested to appear before said Committee, and represent their respective cases before them — and said Committee are desired fully to hear the said persons respectively, this claiming to be representatives from the bodies claiming to be Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, subordinate to this Meeting; and having so heard them and deliberated thereon, to report to this meeting, at a subsequent sitting, their sense and judgment, which of those bodies is Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, in unity with and subordinate to this Meeting, and entitled to send Representatives thereto — and also what persons are, at the present time, the Representatives of that body to this Meeting.

And as under present circumstances, it is not determined who are the Representatives from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, it is the conclusion of this Meeting, that no business can be properly entered upon — and that the Clerks now under appointment continue to serve the Meeting until this question is settled. And that the article of Discipline requiring the Representatives to meet together at the close of the first sitting of the Yearly Meeting, for the purpose of proposing Clerks, be suspended at this time, or until the further direction of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met according to adjournment.

One of the Representatives informed the Meeting, that they had had under consideration the subject committed to them this morning, but were not prepared to make a full report at this sitting.

Soon after the Meeting assembled, a person gave the information that a portion of the Representatives had been together, and proposed Thomas B. Gould for Clerk and Charles Perry for Assistant Clerk — contrary to the direction of this Meeting, as by minute of this morning. The large body of the Representatives informed the Meeting that they had no knowledge of the proposition, and by a very general expression of the members of the Meeting, as well as of the Representatives, the course proposed was fully condemned; but the persons thus nominated to act as Clerks proceeded in writing, reading and speaking, to the interruption of Friends, and contrary to the expressed desire and direction of the Meeting, through its Clerk; and under a sense of the entire impropriety of this course, so being contrary to

1845. the well established order of our religious Society, we solemnly protest against it, and warn our Friends of the serious consequences that will necessarily result from their uniting in this measure. On calling the names of all the Representatives from the different Quarterly Meetings, except Rhode-Island, it appeared by their express declaration, that forty-one of their number were not consulted in relation to the appointment of Clerks, and that they now entirely dissent from the appointment of Thomas R. Gould and Charles Perry — while four made no response to the Clerk when their names were called. Three others of the Representatives have not been in attendance of the Meeting on account of ill health — Forty-eight being the whole number of Representatives deputed to attend this Meeting, with the exception of those from Rhode-Island.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Third-day morning, the 17th. — Friends again met, Pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the Representatives being called — with the exception of those from Rhode-Island — they were all present but six; for the absence of two of whom, satisfactory reasons have been given.

Ethan Foster, Benjamin Tucker, and Prince Gardner appeared in this Meeting, and requested, as they declared, on behalf of what they termed New-England Yearly Meeting, the use of the Table for their Clerks, appointed yesterday afternoon, and the occupancy of this House, and also the transfer to them, of the Books and Papers of this Meeting. — To which this Meeting replies, that New-England Yearly Meeting, now regularly in session, cannot yield its table, its books or papers, or the occupancy of this house, to any other body or persons whatever.

The Representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings, with the exception of those from Rhode-Island, having attended to the services assigned them as a Committee of this Meeting, as by minute of yesterday morning now presented a Report, which was read. The persons named as Representatives to this Meeting, in the account signed by David Buffum, as Clerk, were present in the Meeting. — And Stephen A. Chase was desired to notify the persons named as Representatives from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting in the account presented to this Meeting, signed by Charles Perry, Assistant Clerk, that the Yearly Meeting was about to take up and consider said Report, and that they might be heard upon the subject — Who attended to the service, and reported to the Meeting as follows, viz.

"In compliance with the request of the Yearly Meeting, that I should notify the persons named as Representatives from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting in the account presented to this Meeting, signed by Charles Perry as assistant Clerk, I proceeded to the yard

1845. adjacent to the Meeting-House where we were assembled, and there found Athniel Foster, Oliver Chase, Thomas B. Gould, Nathan Buffenton, Charles Perry, and divers other persons in their company.— To whom I stated, that I was requested by the Yearly Meeting to notify the persons named as Representatives in the account above described; viz. Athniel Foster, Oliver Chase, John Mitchell, Thos. B. Gould, Nathan Buffenton, John T. Kenyon, Samuel Sheffield, Harvey Chase and Charles Perry,— that the Committee of the Representatives, appointed yesterday, by the Yearly Meeting, to hear and report upon their claims as Representatives from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting to this Meeting, had made report thereon— which Report was about to be considered by the Yearly Meeting at this time and in this house— and that they might now be heard upon the subject if they thought proper.

6mo 17, 1845 "Stephen A. Chase."

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England."

And after waiting a sufficient time for those last named persons to appear,— the Report (of the Committee of Representatives) was again read, and deliberately considered,— and after a large and free expression of sentiment, was fully united with by the Meeting at large, (with the exception of Rhode-Island Friends, who under the circumstances in which they were placed, forbore to offer any sentiment thereon.)

And the Report being thus united with and accepted by Friends, (without a dissenting voice,) its conclusions were fully adopted and confirmed by this Meeting.——— It is as follows:———

"To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England now sitting.

"We your Committee to hear the several persons claiming to be Representatives to this Yearly Meeting from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, and to deliberate upon and report our judgment, which of said persons ought to be so received; and also which of the bodies claiming to be Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting subordinate to this Yearly Meeting, ought to be recognized as such,— Now inform the Yearly Meeting, that we duly notified said persons so claiming to be Representatives from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, of the time and place of our Meeting to hear them upon the subjects committed to us.

"Four of the persons named as Representatives in the account signed by Charles Perry as Assistant Clerk, appeared before the Committee, and one of them, speaking on behalf of the Representatives from that Meeting, stated that they declined entering into any investigation of the subject, as they denied the jurisdiction of the Committee in the case,— and then withdrew.

1845. "Joseph Wetcraft, Rowland Greene, Wm Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum, David Shove, Silas Earle, Jr., Walter Perry, Peck and Daniel Collins, named in Representatives the account presented to the Yearly Meeting, signed by David Buffum as Clerk, and Elizabeth Mearder and Mary Shove on the part of the Women's Quarterly Meeting, represented by S. H. Tobey as Clerks, appeared, — and alledged, to us, That in Swansey Monthly Meeting, for a long time past, there has been a want of that love and unity which are essential to the right conducting of the affairs of Truth. That about two years since Committees were appointed in that Meeting to propose the names of Clerks and Overseers of Society, but they were unable to agree upon Friends for those stations. — That the state of this Meeting had claimed the attention of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and also of a Committee of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, previous to our last Yearly Meeting, and much labour had been bestowed by them to remedy the existing difficulties, and to produce that organization of the Meeting that would enable it to carry into effect the Discipline the administration of which had been seriously interrupted. They further alledged, that the Committee appointed at our last Yearly Meeting, "to assist and advise such Meetings and Members as circumstances may require and way open for," with a number of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee then under appointment, met with those two Committees of the Monthly Meeting, in the 7th month, and united with a part of them in their proposing to the Meeting the names of certain Friends for Clerks and Overseers; That with the exception of two or three individuals, all the the members of those Committees of the Monthly Meeting either united with the names proposed, or expressed their acquiescence therein: and they were accordingly reported by those Committees to the Monthly Meeting, and the report was fully united with by the large body of the members of that Meeting. A few individuals opposed it, and the Clerk, who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, although earnestly advised to do so by the Yearly Meeting's Committee in attendance. It further appears, That the following advice from the Yearly Meeting's Committee was given in writing to the Monthly Meeting at this time, viz. —

"To Swansey Monthly Meeting.

"Dear Friends, The Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting "to extend a general care on its behalf for the preservation of love and unity among our members, the maintenance of our Christian principles & testimonies and the support of the Discipline of the Church; and in the ability that may be afforded them, to assist and advise such Meetings and Members as circumstances may require, and way open for, under the direction of best wisdom," having from a belief that our duty under our appointment required it, met with the Committees of your Meeting, appointed about two years since to propose the names of Clerk

1845 sion and Clerks, and apprehending that the cause of Truth and the right exercise of our Christian Discipline, urgently demand, that there should be no further delay in the cases, were united in giving the following advice, — It appearing by the voluntary declaration of those members of a Committee who were present, appointed as we apprehend without the authority of Discipline, and out of the usual order of Society, to assist the Overseers when they presented a complaint against an individual, that they believed Edmund Chase to be innocent of the charges preferred against him by said individual, and that they did not intend in their report to the Monthly Meeting to implicate him, we were united in judgment that this document ought not to be retained by the Monthly Meeting, nor among its papers, but destroyed. The Committee on Overseers informed us that they had agreed upon five Friends for this station, and there being but one of them from within the limits of Hall's River Preparative Meeting, it being usual to appoint two from that Meeting; in view of the circumstances, we were united in advising the Committee to propose to the Monthly Meeting to appoint Edmund Chase in addition to those named, there appearing not to be any grounds for the objections originally urged against this appointment. The Committee in relation to Clerks informed us that they could not agree upon names; and after a full consideration of the case, we thought it right to advise the Committee to propose to the Monthly Meeting to appoint David Shaw for Clerk, and Jonathan Freeborn for Assistant Clerk. And we are now united in advising the Monthly Meeting to make these appointments, believing that hereby the best interests of the Monthly Meeting, and its preservation in the unity of the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings will be promoted.

On behalf of the Yearly Meeting's Committee,

Rowland Greene."

They further alledged, that the condition of this Meeting as it then stood was presented to the Quarterly Meeting in the 8th month; which again appointed a Committee to visit Swansey Monthly Meeting, and assist in its due organization, that our Christian Discipline might be supported as in former days, to the honour of Truth. — That at the following Monthly Meeting the individual who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting in attempting to hold that station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the Meeting, and of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of the Yearly Meeting's Committee; — and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time, (with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last Meeting,) united in the appointment as Clerk, of the Friend who had been selected at the previous Meeting, he proceeded to open the Meeting; and the Representatives from all the Preparative Meetings presented to him the

1 and to carry

1845 ...ports from those Meetings, and all assented to the calling
of their names. That notwithstanding this decision of
the Meeting, the former Clerk, Thomas Wilbur, continued
to sit at the table, and to form and read minutes;
and to prevent confusion, Friends after having read
the minute of the Quarterly Meeting appointing the
Committee, adjourned to a later hour in the afternoon;
by far the greater part of the men's Meeting and all the
Women withdrawing from the house, and mostly assem-
bling again at the hour of adjournment to transact
the business of the Meeting. That the persons
who sustained the former Clerk in his decision against
the judgment of the Meeting, with several Women
who were also disaffected towards Society, continued to
hold what they called Monthly Meetings; and that at
Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting in the Eleventh Month,
they presented an account purporting to come from Swan-
sey Monthly Meeting, which was not received, or in any
way acknowledged. That after the business of the
Quarterly Meeting was concluded, these individuals, with
a few from the other Monthly Meetings, both men & Women,
most of whom had for a length of time openly mani-
fested a want of unity with Friends, remained in the
house, and called themselves Rhode-Island Quarterly
Meeting; appointing Clerks and a Committee to visit
subordinate Meetings. That this Committee, thus
appointed, has since visited the Monthly Meetings,
and attempted to sit in them, and to be recognized as
a Committee from the Quarterly Meeting, organized as
has been described, in a manner wholly irregular and
unprecedented with us. That most of these indi-
viduals being already under dealing as offenders in their
respective Monthly Meetings, and refusing to leave
Friends select, — for the support of our Discipline,
adjournment has been resorted to, in order to be freed
from this intrusion. That a few individuals have
been found in each of the Monthly Meetings in Rhode-
Island Quarter, who being disaffected towards the body
of Friends, have under the advisement of this Committee,
united in forming what they denominate Monthly
Meetings, assuming to themselves the names of those Monthly
Meetings respectively.

These allegations, and the remarks upon them by
said persons named as Representatives of Rhode-Island
Quarterly Meeting in the account presented to the Yearly
Meeting, signed by David Buffum as Clerk, we have
solidly deliberated upon; and it is our judgment & sense
and we do accordingly report to the Yearly Meeting, that
the allegations of Joseph Metcalf and others on behalf of
the body claiming to be Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting
of which David Buffum and Sarah H. Tobey are Clerks,
are true, as follows, viz. That at Swansey Monthly Meeting

1845 in the Seventh Month, the report of the Committee of said Monthly Meeting, proposing David Shove as Clerk, and Jonathan Peebon as Assistant Clerk, and Oliver Earle, Simpson Buffington, Theophilus Shove, David Shove, Jon.a Peebon, and Edmund Chase as Overseers, was fully united with by the large body of the members of that Meeting. That a few individuals opposed it, and Thomas Wilbur, the Clerk, who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, although earnestly advised to do so by the Yearly Meeting's Committee in attendance. That at Swansey Monthly Meeting in the Eighth month, Thomas Wilbur who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting in attempting to hold that station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the Meeting, and of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of the Yearly Meeting's Committee; and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time, with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last Monthly Meeting, united in the appointment as Clerk of David Shove, he proceeded to open the Meeting; and the Representatives from all the Preparative Meetings presented to them the Reports from those Meetings, and all answered to the calling of their names. That the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode-Island in the Eleventh Month last, decided rightly, when they received the account from Swansey Monthly Meeting, signed by David Shove as Clerk, and acknowledged the Representatives named in that account, from Swansey Monthly Meeting. We are also united in judgment, that at said Monthly Meeting in the Seventh Month, Thomas Wilbur was bound by the Discipline and good order of our Society, to accept the clearly expressed sense of the Monthly Meeting, appointing David Shove as its Clerk, in accordance with the advice of the Yearly Meeting's Committee, and by refusing so to do, so far departed from the discipline and usages of our Society, as well as from the subordination of inferior to superior Meetings, and individuals to the body, as to disqualify him from any longer holding the office of Clerk of Swansey Monthly Meeting; and said office thereupon became vacant. And it is further our sense and judgment, that at Swansey Monthly Meeting in the Eighth Month, David Shove was rightfully the Clerk, having been thereto duly appointed, and was, remained, and is the only properly constituted Clerk of Swansey Monthly Meeting: Thomas Wilbur, therefore, and others who continued to act with him as Clerk, under the name of Swansey Monthly Meeting, sending Representatives to the Quarterly Meeting in the Eleventh month, we are united in considering as Separatists from our Religious Society, and out of its unity, and not entitled to be considered a Monthly Meeting of our Religious Society.

Those

1845. Those persons who at the Quarterly Meeting in the Eleventh Month remained in the house after the Quarterly Meeting had concluded, under the name of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, and appointed a Clerk, received accounts and Representatives from the body calling itself Swanzey Monthly Meeting, of which Thomas Wilbur was the Clerk, We are also united in judgment, are out of the unity of this Yearly Meeting, and not entitled to be represented in this Meeting, nor to be considered a Quarterly Meeting of our Religious Society.

It is therefore our united sense and judgment, that the accounts from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting signed by David Buffum and Sarah H. Tobey as Clerk, should be received as the true accounts from said Quarterly Meeting, and that Joseph Metcalf, Rowland Greene, Wm. Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum, David Shove, Oliver Earle, John Mearler, Perez Peck, and Beriah Collins on the part of the Men's Meeting, and Elizabeth Wing, Elizabeth Mearler, Deborah Collins, Hannah Dennis, Elizabeth Peckham and Mary Shove, on the part of the Women's Meeting, should be considered and acknowledged as the Representatives from that Quarterly Meeting to this Yearly Meeting.

Which is submitted to the judgment of the Yearly Meeting.

Thomas Jones,
Estes Newhall,
Benjamin Fry,
Moses Harmon,
Daniel Clasp
Nathaniel Stevens,
Nathan Pope,
Isaac Lawrence,
Timothy Hanson,
John Howland,
Samuel Mead,
Walter Sawyer,
Stephen Jones, jun.
Moses H. Rogers,
Elisha Jones
Clement Rackliff,
Elijah Hussey,
Ezekiel H. Bean,
Frederic Swan,
Caleb Jones,
Isaac R. Gifford,
Enoch Page,
Oliver D. Rogers,
William Ritchie,
Allen Wing,
Nathan Breed,
Peter M. Stackpole,
John W. Minot,
Elijah Johnson,
John Paige
Moses Huntington, jun.
Joseph H. Cole,
Joseph Taylor,
Benjamin Wheeler,
Jacob K. Purinton,
Joel Marsh
Hezekiah Chase,
James L. Fry,
Joseph Tabor,
David Douglas,
Wm. C. Tabor.

(For Signature of Women Friends, see over.)

Mary Shepherd,
Sarah Barnard,
Abigail M. Hanson,
Phebe Cobb,
Patience D. Swan,
Lydia Hussey,
Sarah B. Warren,
Margaret Rackliff,
Hannah Holder,
Jane Purinton,
Lydia Allen,
Ruth Frye,
Alice Rathbun,
Lydia Jenkins
Cynthia W. Huntington,
Mary Chase,
Eunice J. Rich
Hyrena T. Reed,
Phebe Taylor,
Martha J. Hodges,
Susan Howland,
Sophronia Page,
Chloe Douglas,
Lydia R. Kelly,
Hannah Lovel,
Phebe R. Gifford,
Hannah G. Sawyer,
Susanna J. Barrett
Mary D. Stackpole,
Lydia E. Chase,

Anne Macomber,
Lydia H. Goddard,
Mary Wing, Sandwich
Patience Buffum,
Phebe N. Douglas,
Alice Paige,
Elizabeth Paige,
Bethiah Hussey.

Copy, compared,
A. Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

The business which has occupied the attention of Friends, being thus brought to a satisfactory result,

The names of the Representatives from Rhode-Island Quarter, viz. Joseph Wanton, Rowland Greene, William Jenkins, Thomas Anthony, Nicholas Congdon, David Buffum, David Shove, Oliver Earle, John Meader, Perez Peck and Boriah Collins, were now called, when they were found to be all present.

And the Representatives from the several Quarters were requested to meet together at the close of this sitting, to agree upon a Clerk and Assistant Clerk, for the Year, and report the same to the adjournment.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Third-day afternoon, 6th mo 7th. The Meeting assembled.

Rowland Evans informed the Meeting that the Representatives had had a full meeting on the subject of Clerks, and were unitedly agreed in proposing Abraham Thurman, jun. for Clerk of this Meeting; and also in proposing Samuel Boyd Tobey, as Assistant Clerk — which was approved by the Meeting, and they accordingly appointed to those services for the year ensuing.

During at this Meeting the acceptable company of our beloved friend John Pease from Great Britain, satisfactory Certificates of the unity of his friends with his Gospel ministry and present labours of love in this land, from the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, held in the 3d month, the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, held in the 4th month, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held on the 22d and 23d of the 5th month, and the 3d of the 6th month, 1843, were produced and read at this sitting.

We have also at this time the company of our beloved friends Richard Mott, of Purchase M.o Meeting, Thomas Willis, of Westbury and Jericho M.o Meeting, and James Jordan, of Amawalk, W.o N.Y. state of New York — Certificates of the unity of their friends with their ministry and present religious engagements were also produced & read.

It was also a satisfactory minute of the M.ng of Wilmington, Delaware, on behalf of our friend Samuel Willis, now with us as companion to our dear friend John Pease, expressive of their unity with him in this concern, & stating that he is an Elder in good esteem with them.

The London General Epistle of the past year, embracing much affectionate counsel and advice on the right ordering of our families, and the religious training of our young people; with salutary remarks on various other important subjects intimately connected with our growth and walk consistent with our Christian profession — was received and read to our edification and comfort.

An acceptable Epistle from the same Yearly Meeting addressed to this; with one from the Yearly Meeting of Ireland, and from each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, with which we have correspondence, with the exception of South Carolina, were also received and read to our comfort; and we are renewedly led to believe that usefulness will continue to result from these interchanges of brotherly feeling and sympathy, as they are produced under that influence which can alone enable us to be such others helpers and joy & comforts in the Lord.

John Ewing, Hugh H. Pole, Rowland Evans, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Thomas Anthony, John Wilson, Sam.l Taylor, jun.r Samuel Paige, Jun.r C. Jones, Charles Wharton, Isaac P. Gifford, Stephen H. Chase, John Rhodes, Joseph H. Cole, Caleb Jones, Daniel Jones, Daniel Smith, Abijah Johnson Wm H. Chase, Wm Jenkins, Edward Evans, Jon.a Adams, John Page, jun.r Jon.a

1845. [illegible] Coggeshall, Eliza Congdon, Asa Thompson, Benjamin Hall, Wm Ritchie, Daniel R. Bailey, Eli Jones, Joseph Metcalf, Cornelius Douglas, Newell Hoxie, Stephen Jones jun. Isaac Lawrence and Richard Batty were requested to take such Epistles into consideration, and as way may open for it, to prepare Copy of communications to those Meetings respectively, also to our friends of N. Carolina Yearly Meeting, and present them at a future sitting or sittings of this meeting

[illegible]

It appears by accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings, that necessary care has been taken for the payment to our Treasurer, of their respective proportions of Stock as directed last year,— and Wm. Reynolds, Micajah C. Pratt, Geo. Howland, Samuel Jones, Richard Batty, Edmund Cates, Stephen Beede, and Joseph Taylor, were appointed to examine their Accounts, who are to consider of and propose a Sum suitable to be raised for the service of the ensuing year,— & to purpose a Treasurer —— reporting at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We are informed by the several Quarterly Meetings of which they are members, that the following Friends have been appointed to the station of Elders, viz. Abigail Crowell of Sandwich M° Meeting, in Sandwich Quarter — Abraham Winslow and Ruth Winslow of Windham Monthly, and Falmouth Quarterly Meeting — Abigail Inman, of Smithfield M° and Quarterly Meeting — Lydia Hoxie, of Portsmouth M° and Quarterly M°. — Timothy Hanson, of Dover M° and Quarterly M°. — Susanna Jones, of St Albans Monthly and Scituate Quarterly Meeting — and that the Public Ministry of Benjamin H. Jones, of Dover, has been approved by the Monthly & Quarterly Meetings.

We also learn by the several Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting that Daniel Foster, Eunice Foster & Lydia Wilbur, who have stood as Elders in Greenwich M° Meeting and Henry Gould who has been an Elder in Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, have been disowned from Society; & that Mary Bassington, of Swanzey M° Meeting, who has stood as an approved Minister, has also been disowned.

Our several Quarterly Meetings in their accounts to this Meeting, acknowledge the receipt by them respectively of the Document issued by our Meeting for Sufferings relative to a division that has taken place in Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting.

Adjourned to the 9th hour tomorrow morning.

Fourth Day morning, the 18th.

Friends again met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the Representatives being called, they were all present but six, for the absence of two of whom satisfactory reasons have been given.

1845 The minutes of this Meeting for the past year were then read.

Our beloved friend Sarah Lawson of Great Britain, being in the acceptable attendance of this Meeting, satisfactory Certificates of the unity of her Friends with her ministry and with her prospect of paying a visit in the love of the Gospel to Friends in some parts of this country were read at this sitting, viz. from the Monthly Meeting of Hull and the Quarterly Meeting of York, last held in the 3d month, 1843, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London, on the 22d and 23d of the 5th, and the 3d of the sixth month, 1843.

We also have the acceptable company of our esteemed friends Phebe G. Underhill of Amawalk Mo. Meeting, N. York, and Drusilla Knowles of Farnham Mo. Meeting, in Canada East. Phebe Ann Sands of Purchase Mo. Meeting New York, companion to our friend Phebe G. Underhill. and Cynthia Knowles of New Monthly Meeting, New York, companion to our friend Drusilla Knowles, ——— who severally produced satisfactory minutes of the unity of their Friends with their present engagements.

Under the present peculiar and trying circumstances in which we are placed, we have believed that a solemn duty devolves upon this Meeting, both towards its subordinate meetings Monthly as well as our brethren of other Yearly Meetings; and under a deep feeling of the responsibility resting upon us we appoint our friends John Wilson, John Hoskins, John S. Jones, Samuel Boyd, Isaac Rowland Greene, David Bullock, Richard Bailey, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Boyce, Isaac Lawrence, Sam[l] Taylor, jun[r] Eli Jones, Edmund Chase, Perez Peck, Wm Jenkins, Thomas Jones, Wm Ritching, Elijah Johnson, James Jones, Stephen Mahan, Asa Thompson, Estes Newhall, Wm H. Chase, Benj[a] Fry, Joseph Metcalf, Edmund Cates, Daniel Tabor, Wm C. Tabor, Stephen Jones, jun[r] Samuel Jones, Thomas Anthony, Nathan G. Chase, jun[r] Elisha Jones, Cromwell Parnell, Moses Parmenter, Allen Wing, Charles Atherton, Daniel Clasby, Joseph Tabor, Nathan Pope, Isaac R. Gifford, Edm[d] White, Isaac David Hadley, John Paige, jun[r] Jacob H. Vining, George Haviland, John M. Minot, Cornelius Douglas, and Nathan Bird to take into their solid and careful consideration what they apprehend may be called for at our hands; and if way should open for it, prepare and present to a future sitting of this Meeting, such essays or essays as will give a clear view of the circumstances that have tended to produce the Secession that has taken place from our body, and also to manifest our continued adherence to the ancient doctrines & testimonies of our religious Society; and with liberty to introduce to this Meeting any subjects that they may think necessary under present circumstances.

The annual Report of the Committee of this Meeting having the superintendence of the Boarding School at Providence, was produced and read, and being satisfactory to us, the Clerk was directed to forward copies thereof to our several Quarterly & Monthly Meetings.

1845

The account of the Superintendent of the School was presented, and directed to be placed on file.

The Friends now under appointment on the part of this Meeting, as a Committee for the Government & Superintendence of the School were continued in that service, (with the exception of our late friend Thomas Howland deceased,) for the ensuing year, & till another appointment, to act this year in connection with a Committee of the Women's Meeting. — Their names are as follows, viz.

Howland Greene.	Arnold Congdon	Sam[l] Taylor jun	Reuben J. Cobham,
Nicholas Congdon	James C. Fry.	Joseph Tabor	Wm H. Chase,
Wm Jenkins	Samuel Boyce,	Albion	Wm C. Tabor,
Walter Allen.	John Mosher	Caleb Nichols.	Josiah Johnson.
Joseph Metcalf	David Shaw.	Edward Earle.	Joseph Hoag.
David Pessam	Wm H. Robinson	Edmund Chase.	Daniel Ordway,
Peter Dennis.	Thomas Wing.	Arnold Hoag.	Henry Thompson.
John Osborne.	Nathan Read Lyon.	James Dennis	Tobias Meader
Wm Chapman Jr	Benj[a] Fry.	Sam[l] D. Slocum	Jon[a] Greene.
Thomas Jones.	Moses H. Rhodes	Silas Wade	Sim[l] C. Collins
Thomas Anthony	John Howland.	Hezekiah C. Pratt.	Joseph H. Cozzens.
Wm Reynolds.	Benj. Peck.	John Warren.	Silas Thompson,
Sam[l] Boyd Tobey	Enoch Reed,	Edmund Cates.	Charles R. Tucker,
George Howland	John D. Long.	Nathan Pope	Matthew Howland,
Stephen Peckham jun	Silas H. Hitchcock	Daniel Tabor	Eli Jones,
Isaac P. Gifford	Wm Parker, Tiverton	Sam[l] Austin	David Osborn Jun[r]
Edward Hong	Tho[s] Harkness	Gilbert Congdon	Caleb Jones.
Jonathan Congdon	Samuel Jones	Gideon C. Smith	Benj[a] Greene.

Adjourned to half past 4. this afternoon.

Afternoon — Met pursuant to adjournment.

Friends, soon after the commencement of this sitting, entered upon a consideration of the state of Society, by the reading of the Queries and the answers thereto, received at the present time from our several Quarterly Meetings which occupied most of the sitting. The state of Society as thus brought before us, elicited deep interest, and concerned brethren now present, were engaged in offering pertinent and feeling counsel, in which the causes that tend to produce the deficiencies that are apparent were adverted to in Gospel love; and we were tenderly exhorted to greater watchfulness over ourselves; to guard with greater strictness against the baneful effects of detraction, or speaking too freely of what we may deem the failings of others; to avoid the perusal of pernicious publications, deeming every work to be of this description, which has a tendency to destroy a relish for the Holy Scriptures, and other solid and instructive reading; to peruse with increased devotion, the sacred volume, and in seasons of retirement to meditate upon its holy precepts; to endeavour to bring up our beloved offspring under the government and restraining influence of the Truth, and in feelings of love and affection to convince their judgment that the paths of virtue are the paths of peace;

1845 Above all, to be concerned to give unto our Father in Heaven all of our time and talents He will graciously condescend to accept, with the full assurance that when at last the closing hour shall arrive, we shall not regret the time thus spent, but through adorable mercy may be permitted to lay down our heads in peace. During the sitting a solemn feeling has covered our minds, a sense of which we trust deeply may fastingly abide upon us.

Thomas Harkness, Walter Sawyer, Edw.d Foster, David R. Aken, Joseph Davis, Caleb Jones, Moses Taber and Allen Wing were requested to prepare a Summary of the Answers received, for the purpose of being placed upon record, and present the same to the sitting of tomorrow afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 19th.

About the hour adjourned to, Friends again convened.

The Representatives being called, they were present as yesterday, with the exception of one detained by indisposition.

The Friends named yesterday afternoon for that purpose, presented a Summary of the answers to the Queries, which was directed to be placed on record. [See page 271.]

The minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before us and read. Followed by a very full expression of the unity of this Meeting with the care they have taken, and the results they have come to in regard to the various important concerns that have engaged their attention. ——

And the Committee appointed yesterday was requested carefully to review the list of Friends constituting the present Meeting for Sufferings, with liberty to introduce a new nomination, should they deem that most advisable.

A secession from our religious Society having, to some extent taken place in various sections of this Yearly Meeting, and divers Meetings set up, bearing the name of, & claiming to be meetings of the Society of Friends, in order that no embarrassment may be experienced by Friends in determining what meetings are in unity with the Society, the Representatives now in attendance from the several Quarterly Meetings are requested to consult together, and propose at a future sitting, the names of Correspondents in our different Monthly Meetings, whose duty it shall be to sign all Certificates and other papers issued by those Meetings respectively, in addition to the usual signature of the Clerk. And any one of whom within the limits of their respective Quarterly Meetings may sign any document issued by such Quarterly Meeting.

It was referred to the Committee on the Correspondence to prepare essays of returning Certificates & Minutes for Friends now with us from abroad, and to unite therein with a Committee of the Women's Meeting, in cases requiring the action of both Meetings.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Compare

1845.

Sixth-day morning, the 20th.

Friends again met, and the names of the Representatives being called, they were present as yesterday.

The joint Committee of Men & Women Friends appointed to visit subordinate Meetings and individual Members, and under the direction of best wisdom to labour for the promotion of love and unity, the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the support of the Discipline of the Church, produced the following Report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting.

"The joint Committee of Men and Women Friends appointed last year to visit subordinate Meetings and individual Members, and under the direction of best wisdom, to labour for the promotion of love and unity, the maintenance of our Christian principles and testimonies, and the support of the Discipline of the Church, Report, That the attention and care of the Committee was early turned to to the condition of Swansey Monthly Meeting, a branch of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting. In Swansey Monthly Meeting for a long time past, there has been a want of that love and unity which are essential to the right conducting of the affairs of Truth. About two years since, Committees were appointed in that Meeting to propose the names of Clerks and Overseers of Society, but they were unable to agree upon Friends for those stations. The state of this Meeting had claimed the attention of the Yearly Meetings Committee and also of a Committee of Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, previous to our last Yearly Meeting, and much labour had been bestowed by them to remedy the existing difficulties, and to procure that organization of the meeting that would enable it to carry into effect the Discipline, the administration of which had been seriously interrupted. ——— A number of the members of this Committee, with a number of the Yearly Meeting's Committee then under appointment, met with those two Committees of the Monthly Meeting in the 7th month, and united with a part of them in their proposing to the Meeting the names of certain Friends for Clerk and Overseers. With the exception of two or three individuals, all the members of those Committees of the Monthly Meeting either united with the names proposed, or expressed their acquiescence therein. They were accordingly reported to the Monthly Meeting, and the report was fully united with by the large body of the members of that Meeting. A few individuals opposed it, and the Clerk, who was one of this number, refused to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, although earnestly advised to do so by the Yearly Meeting's Committee in attendance. And we are fully of the judgment, that Thomas Wilbur at Swansey Monthly Meeting in the 7th month, in refusing to record the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting, so far departed from the unity of the body as to disqualify him from any longer holding the office of Clerk of that Meeting.

1845 "The condition of this Meeting, as it then stood, was presented to the Quarterly Meeting in the 5th month, which again appointed a Committee to visit Swanzey Monthly Meeting, and assist in its due organization, that our Christian Discipline might be supported, as in former days, to the honour of Truth.

"At the following Monthly Meeting, the individual who had previously acted as Clerk, still persisting in attempting to hold that station, contrary to the fully expressed sense of the Meeting, and of the Quarterly Meeting's Committee, and of the earnest entreaty and advice of this Committee, — and the Monthly Meeting having again at this time (with the exception of those individuals who had manifested their opposition at the last Meeting,) united in the appointment as Clerk, of the friend, David Shove, who had been selected at the previous Meeting, he proceeded to open the Meeting, and the Representatives from all the Preparative Meetings, produced to him the Reports from these Meetings, and all answered to the calling of their names. Notwithstanding this decision of the Meeting, the former Clerk, Thomas Wilbur, continued to sit at the table, and to form and read minutes; and to prevent confusion, Friends, after having read the minute of the Quarterly Meeting appointing its Committee, adjourned to a later hour in the afternoon — by far the larger part of the Men's meeting, and all the Women, withdrawing from the house, and mostly assembling again at the hour of adjournment, to transact the business of the Meeting.

"We are united in judgment that the appointment of David Shove as Clerk of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, was according to the clearly expressed sense of the Meeting — which office he continues to hold.

"We have endeavoured during the past year, also to way opened for it, to labour for the promotion of the further objects of our appointment, and to discharge the duties devolving upon us under it, according to the ability afforded.

"All which we submit to the Yearly Meeting.

"On behalf of the Committee,

Allen Wing,

Newport, 6th mo, 20th 1845 Hannah Dennis."

Which being read and deliberately considered, was fully united with, and their proceedings approved by this and the Women's Meeting.

Believing that in regard to the division that has now taken place, the appointment of a Committee is called for to visit such subordinate Meetings as may appear to them to stand in need of assistance, and to afford such counsel and advice as in the wisdom of the Truth they may be enabled to afford; and that they should extend special care in the assisting of Friends in sustaining our Meetings in the different parts of our Yearly Meeting, according to our present organization, — the Representatives are requested to consider of, and report at a future sitting, the names of such Friends as they may consider suitable to constitute a Committee for these purposes.

1845. The Representatives, as requested by minute of yesterday afternoon, reported the names of Correspondents for our different Monthly Meetings: which report was united with by the Meeting.—And the names are as follows, viz.

Correspondents of New England Yearly Mg.

Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting:

Monthly Meetings.	Correspondents Dan'l Mitchell	Address
Rhode-Island,	John L. Mitchell.	Newport, R.I.
Greenwich,	Rowland Greene,	Fishkill, "
Swanzey	Oliver Earle,	Swanzey, Mass.
Providence,	Samuel Boyd Tobey,	Providence, R.I.

Salem Quarterly Meeting.

Salem,	Nathan Breed,	Lynn, Mass.
Seabrook,	Moses Huntington, jun.	Amesbury, "
Weare,	Elijah Johnson,	Weare, N.H.

Sandwich Quarterly Meeting.

Sandwich,	Hallett Gifford,	West Falmouth, Mass
Pembroke,	Calvin Shepherd,	Pembroke, "
Nantucket,	Cromwell Barnard,	Nantucket, "
Dartmouth,	George Almy,	N. Dartmouth R.I. "
Westport,	Samuel Slade,	Westport, "
New Bedford,	John Howland,	New Bedford, "

Falmouth Quarterly Meeting.

Falmouth,	John W. Wing,	Westbrook, Cobbosseecontee P.O. Maine.
Durham,	Thomas Jones,	South-Durham, "
Windham,	Nathan Pope,	Windham, "

Smithfield Quarterly Meeting.

Smithfield,	Jonath Aldrich	Uxbridge P.O. R.I.
Uxbridge,	Benjamin Wheeler,	Uxbridge, Mass.
Richmond,	Levi Arnold,	Richmond N.H.
Bolton,	James M. Fay,	Bolton, Mass.

Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting

Vassalborough,	Daniel Yates,	Vassalborough, Maine,
China,	Stephen Jones, jun.	Sidney, "
Unity,	Joseph Yates,	Albion, "

Dover Quarterly Meeting.

Dover,	Joseph Battle,	Dover, N.H.
Berwick,	John D. Lyng,	South Berwick, Maine,
Sandwich,	Benjamin Fay,	Center Sandwich, N.H.

Fairfield Quarterly Meeting.

Sidney,	Samuel Taylor jun.	Fairfield, Maine,
Litchfield,	Elijah Hoxie,	Hallowell N Rds, "
E. Albany,	David Douglas,	East Pt. Albany.

Copies of which the Clerk was directed to forward to our several Quarterly Meetings, that said Monthly Meetings may be duly furnished therewith.—And also to forward copies to the several Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, with a note appended thereto, stating, that while we have thought it a prudent measure to adopt this plan we trust that in many of our Meetings no such appointment is called for on account any disaffection towards

1845. Society, within their limits, that our Friends abroad may be relieved from any degree of embarrassment in the acceptance of Certificates and other Documents from within the limits of this Yearly Meeting.

In case of removal by death or otherwise of any of the Correspondents now appointed, Quarterly Meetings are authorized to supply the vacancy till the time of our next Yearly Meeting.

The Meeting for Sufferings is requested to forward a copy of the foregoing list of Correspondents to the Meetings for Sufferings of other Yearly Meetings.

Adjourned to the 3rd hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's accounts, and for other purposes produced the following report, viz.

"To the Yearly Meeting:

"The Committee appointed at a previous sitting of the Meeting to settle with the Treasurer and for other purposes, report, that they have settled with the Treasurer, and find a balance due him of $232.62. They propose that the sum of Two Thousand Dollars should be raised for the use of the Meeting this year. They likewise propose David Buffum for Treasurer. On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6m° 1845. Geo. Howland.

Which being considered, was satisfactory to Friends, and in conformity therewith, David Buffum was appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing. It was concluded to raise, as proposed, the sum of two thousand dollars for the service of the year; and our several Quarterly Meetings were requested to forward to our Treasurer their respective proportions of this sum, viz. Rhode Island, 30 3/4 cts. Salem 12 1/2 - Sandwich 30 Falmouth 14 3/4 Smithfield, 12 1/2 - Nantucket 2 Dover 6 1/4 Fairfield, 2.

A Memorial of Sandwich M.M. Monthly, & Dover Quarterly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Huldah B. Haug, deceased, was read, and being approved, was directed to be placed on record.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Seventh-day morning, the 21st. Friends again assembled. Representatives present, with the exception of Severe; for the absence of three of whom satisfactory reasons have been assigned.

The Representatives to whom it was referred to consider of and propose the names of Friends to compose a Committee to visit subordinate Meetings for the purposes contained in the minute of yesterday morning, now produced the following, viz. Dover - Jacob, & Silas Newhall, Isaac Lawrence, Thomas Jones, Hunter Farnum, John Warren, Jonathan D. Sanford, David Douglas, Thos. Anthony, Rowland Green, George Howland, Sam. Boyce, Daniel Clapp, Paul Tabor, Allen Wing, Nathan Pope, Nathan Reed of Lynn, Jonathan Pierce, Timothy Hanson, Benj. Hoag, Samuel

Jones,

1845. Joseph Metcalf, Stephen Jones, Jun.r David Bugbee
Samuel Taylor, Jun.r Thatcher Bassett, John Page, Elijah
Johnson. Which was united with — And they ap-
pointed to this service accordingly; and requested to report
to this Meeting next year.

The times and places of holding our several Quarterly
Meetings being specified in the book of Discipline, and
the circumstances existing in one or more of the Quarters,
rendering it probable that a greater discretion to be given
such Quarterly Meetings than is provided in the Disci-
pline, will promote the more satisfactory accomplishment
of the business thereof, — It is our conclusion and advice,
that for the year ensuing, such Quarterly Meetings may
be at liberty to adjourn their Meetings held at the specified
times, from the place now provided, to any other place within
the limits of such Quarterly Meeting. — Said Quarterly Meet-
ings acting therein in accordance with the advice of the Com-
mittee appointed at this time by the Yearly Meeting to visit, advise,
and assist such of our subordinate Meetings as circum-
stances may render necessary. And the same liberty is
granted to such Preparative and Monthly Meetings as
may be similarly situated.

The Committee to which it was referred to receive
the list of Friends who have constituted our Meeting for
Sufferings for the past year, reported that they have attended
thereto, and have no further alteration to propose, than
the appointment of Samuel Jones, in place of our late
beloved friend Thomas Haviland, deceased. — Which was
united with; and our Friends

Rowland Greene,	Benj.n Fry,	John Meader,	Samuel Boyce,
John Warren,	John Osborne,	Arnold Congdon,	John Haviland
Wm Sherman Jr.	Wm Jenkins,	George Haviland	Jos. Taber, Albion,
Esbon Newhall	Jon.a Jones,	Nathan Pope,	Timothy C. Collins
Matthew Perinton,	David Buffum,	Sam.l B. Tobey	Joseph Taylor,
James M. Fry,	Abijah Chase,	John D. Lang,	Beriah Collins,
Nicholas Congdon,	Peter Peck,	Moses H. Beede,	Asey Thompson,
Thomas Stilling,	Wm Reynolds,	Sam.l Taylor, jun.r	Wm Parker, Tiverton
Edward Wing	Moses Farnum,	Edmund Chase	Charles F. Coffin,
Francis Taber,	Joseph Metcalf,	Allen Wing,	Samuel Jones.

are accordingly appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings
for the year ensuing, or till another appointment to act therein
according to the original constitution and appointment of that
Meeting.

By the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting for
Sufferings it appears that our Friends of Rock Riv.r for Suffg.
under a solemn concern for the promotion of the best interests of
our religious Society have appointed a Committee to confer or cor-
respond with other Meetings for Suffg (a part of whom are now
acceptably in attendance of this Meeting) and under feelings of
deep interest in this subject, and with desires that every right
measure may be adopted which under the Divine blessing will tend
to preserve the harmony and promote the good of our Society — our
Meeting for Sufferings was encouraged, as way may open for it,
to attend to this concern.

An acceptable Epistle addressed to this Meeting from our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of London held in the past month, was received during our present sitting, and read; and the language of sympathy and brotherly love which it holds forth, and the Gospel truths which it so feelingly unfolds, have met with a cordial response, as we humbly trust in the minds of Friends of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The following paragraph, proposed by the Committee on the Correspondence, as requested at a previous sitting, was united with, and directed to be inserted in all the Epistles forwarded by us at this time to Friends of other Yearly Meetings on this Continent, — and the substance of it was directed to be embraced in the Epistle to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland.

"We have the painful intelligence to communicate to our brethren of the other Yearly Meetings, that a Secession from our religious Society has taken place within the bounds of our Yearly Meeting. For many years past, a few individuals in some places, have manifested disaffection to the good order of our Society, and have been unwilling to submit themselves to the wholesome restraints of our Discipline: — accusing their brethren who have been concerned on their account, not only with unsoundness in our Christian faith, but with a want of qualification to labour in the Church. And with these accusations upon their lips, wholly refusing the counsel and advice of their Friends. The Meetings and Friends whom these dissatisfied individuals resided, have from time to time laboured, as we believe in the love of the Gospel, to restore them to the unity of the body; but in many instances their labours have been fruitless; and a spirit of insubordination and misrule has resulted, since our last Yearly Meeting, in a secession in Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, and the setting up of a separate Meeting under that name. — On the first assembling of this Meeting, several of those who had thus seceded, appeared and presented an account, purporting to come from the Quarterly Meeting whose name they had assumed. An account from Rhode Island Quarter having been previously received and entered, Friends sincerely desirous to give them Gods opportunity to state their case, in order for its consideration, referred the matter in the first place to a Committee composed of the Representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings, exclusive of that in which the difficulty existed; and the process so of hearing during that time each should be heard by the Yearly Meeting at large, no objection was made to such proceeding if it afterwards should appear best. The Committee of Representatives was desired to hear them speedily, as well as the Friends deputed as Representatives from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, named in the account first received and entered, — and report the result to the

1845

Yearly Meeting. The persons named in the account first received, declined to open their case to the Committee of the Representatives, notwithstanding they had submitted it to the Yearly Meeting in the morning: but at the next sitting of the Meeting in the afternoon, approved thereof, and in a disorderly manner undertook to organize, separately from Friends, what they denominated a Yearly Meeting. This course of disorder was very generally condemned by the Meeting, and the Clerk by its direction, solemnly protested against it; nevertheless the persons who created this disorder remained in the house, reading and speaking until the time of adjournment. Friends were preserved in much quietness during these disorders, patiently waiting for an opportunity to commence the business of the Yearly Meeting. Since this time, the persons who made this disturbance have not attended with us, and the Committee of the Representatives having with great unanimity, reported that the account first received is the true account from Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting; those who had claimed to be Representatives to this Meeting, [from the disorderly Meeting,] being assembled with others in the yard, were informed by direction of the Meeting, that the Report was about to be considered, and that they could be heard upon it, if they desired it — which offer they did not accept. — The Report was then again read, — and the Meeting fully uniting therein, we have from this time been favoured to transact the various concerns of Society claiming our attention, with great harmony and brotherly love. We believe the numbers of those dissatisfied towards Friends, within our borders, to be comparatively small, and are comforted in the view, that the body of Friends among us, are united in harmonious labour for the promotion of the cause of Truth. — — — — — — — — — — — — We have, with entire unanimity, agreed upon, and ordered printed, a detailed statement of the facts & circumstances which have led to, and accompanied this secession. Also, for the clearing of Truth from the reproach which the aspersions of the Seceders are calculated to bring upon it, a declaration of our faith in the ancient Doctrines of Friends in various particulars in which we are charged by them with unsoundness. A copy of each of these papers will accompany this Epistle."

A document embracing the Doctrines of the Gospel, as they ever have been, and we now most assuredly believe it by the Spirit of Truth, was laid before us by the Committee appointed to take into solid and careful consideration what they apprehend may be called for at our hands, under the present position and trying circumstances in which we are placed, and being deliberately read, was fully united with and adopted by the Meeting, and declared to be its Faith, upon the subjects upon which it treats; and the Clerk was directed to sign the same on our behalf.

The Committee on the concerns of the Indian Tribes located West of the Mississippi, presented the following report, viz. "To the Yearly Meeting now sitting

"The Committee on the joint concern of this, and New-York Yearly Meetings, respecting the Indians located West of the Mississippi, Report, That owing to the unsettled state of the General Government, the past year, no opening has presented for any specific action on the part of the Committee of this Meeting, since our last report. We have however not been mindful of the duties assigned us; and trust that every right opening will be improved for the amelioration of the unhappy condition of this interesting portion of the human family. We recommend the appointment of a Committee to act in connection with our Friends of New York Yearly Meeting in promoting this interesting object.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6 mo. 21st, 1845. John Howland."

Which being read and considered, was united with, and the Friends now under appointment, with the exception of our late beloved friend Thomas Howland, deceased, were encouraged as way may open for it, to endeavour to promote the objects Friends have had in view in this concern of Christian philanthropy towards a much neglected people — acting therein in concert with our Friends of the Yearly Meeting of New-York and with any other of our Yearly Meetings that way may open for uniting with in its promotion. And a feeling statement of the discouragements that our Friends of Indiana Yearly Mg. and others connected with them, are labouring under in the maintenance of the School established by them in the Shawnese settlement, on the Western borders of the State of Missouri, and now in successful operation, but casting in various ways for large pecuniary means for its continuance, being spread before us by Friends having intimate knowledge thereof. The subjects as thus presented, claimed the consideration of Friends; and a willingness being expressed to aid our Friends of Indiana in this good work, by a small donation, as evidence of our unity and sympathy with them in the concern, it was concluded to name a Committee to call upon Friends now in attendance of this Meeting, to contribute in their ability freedom to this object. And Benj. H. Warder, Thomas S. Stifford, Wm. H. Ellis, Enoch Page, Wm. S. Haviland, Wm. C. Taber, John W. Hunt, Wm. Jones, Richard Batty, Edw. Coale, Wm. Cox, Joseph Cloud, Isaac H. Parrish, Cyrus Pangs, Joseph Taylor, and Otis Hinckley, were named to this service, and requested to report to a future sitting.

Adjourned to the 9th hour on Second-day morning.

Second-day morning, 6th mo. 23d.

Friends again convened agreeably to adjournment.

The Representatives being called, they were present as at the last sitting.

The Committee appointed on 4th day to consider various subjects connected with the welfare of Society, laid

1845 before this Meeting, a document, being a Narrative of Facts and circumstances that have tended to produce a Secession from Friends in this Yearly Meeting, which was read, and being considered, it was united with by a full expression of this Meeting, as being proper information for our own members and those of other Yearly Meetings, and the Clerk was directed to sign it on our behalf.

An Essay of a Communication to our subordinate Meetings & the individual members of the Society of Friends, was prepared by the Committee above named, and being deliberately considered it was fully approved and united with, and the Clerk directed to sign it on our behalf. [Recorded page 272.]

The three documents that have been now prepared by this Meeting, viz. the Declaration of our Faith, and the two Essays presented this morning, it was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings to cause such number to be printed and distributed as they may deem necessary to carry into effect the concern of this Meeting, and they are authorized to make any verbal alterations not affecting the sense, that they may find proper.

Adjourned to the 3d hour this afternoon.

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see page 270. * Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Correspondence to which was referred the subject of returning Minutes for Friends now with us from abroad, presented the following Essays, which were fully united with, and the Clerk was directed to furnish copies thereof to those Friends respectively, signed by him on our behalf.

"To the Monthly Meeting of Darlington, the Quarterly Meeting of Durham, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

"Our beloved Friend John Rose, on whose behalf we issued Certificates last year, has since that time acceptably attended most of the Meetings in our Yearly Meeting which he had not previously visited.

"He has been in attendance with us during our present Meeting, and his labours of love in the Gospel among us, have been sound, and truly comforting and edifying. The remembrance of our sympathy into which we have been led together, we trust will be long cherished by us; And we can cheerfully certify that his dedicated Christian course during his sojourn within our borders, has evinced a near dwelling with the Master; and his visited deportment has been in accordance with his religious profession, and much to the satisfaction of Friends. And now, that the time of his emancipation for his native Land seems to be drawing nigh, we earnestly desire that he may have the blessed assurance that he has finished the work assigned him in our Land; and that he may be favoured to be restored to his family & friends with the increase of that peace which the Apostle declares to be the fruit of the Spirit of Christ."

[Signed by Clerks of both Meetings.]

1845 "To the Monthly Meeting of Hull, the Quarterly Meeting of York, and the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held in London.

"Dear Friends,

"We have at this Meeting the company of our beloved friend Isabel Casson, who produced satisfactory Certificates from your respective Meetings.

"The attendance of this our dear friend at this Meeting and her solid and exemplary deportment and Gospel labours have been truly acceptable, instructive and edifying to us.

"Our feelings have been introduced into near unity with our beloved friend, and in now parting with her on the eve of her embarkation for her native Land, we commend her to the preserving care of the unslumbering Shepherd: earnestly desiring that she may be restored in safety to her friends with the reward of peace."

[Signed by Clerks of both Meetings.]

"Our beloved friend Richard Mott has attended this Meeting with a minute of concurrence in his present religious engagement from Purchase Monthly Meeting, New York. His company and Gospel labours have been truly acceptable to us."

"Our beloved friend, Thomas Willis, has attended this Meeting, with a minute from Westbury and Jericho Monthly Meeting. His company and religious services have been truly acceptable to us."

"Our beloved friend James Jordan has attended this Meeting, with a minute of concurrence in his present religious engagements from Nantucket Monthly Meeting. His company and religious services have been truly acceptable to us."

"Our beloved friend Samuel Willis, as companion to our dear friend John Pease, has attended this Meeting, with a minute of concurrence from the Mo. Meeting of Wilmington, Delaware. His company and solid deportment have been acceptable and satisfactory to us."

Essays of Epistles to our Friends of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland, and to each of the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, were produced and read at this sitting, and being approved, the Clerk was requested to have them transcribed, with such verbal alterations as may appear necessary, sign them on our behalf, and forward them to those Meetings respectively.

Our friends William Jenkins, Providence, R. I.
David Buffum, Newport, R. I.
Abm. Shearman, jun. Alex. Bedford, Mass.
and Samuel Boyd Tobey, Providence, R. I.
are our Correspondents with the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland. The latter appointed in place of our late beloved friend Thomas Howland, deceased since our last Yearly Meeting.

1845.

The contents of this page should have been inserted on page 268 commencing at this mark *

The Committee having charge of the concern of this Meeting in relation to the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians, produced the following Report, viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee having charge of the concern of this meeting in relation to the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians, Report. That the attention of the Committee has been frequently turned to consider in what way we could be most serviceable to them; yet way has not opened to visit them in all their locations, though several of our number have been at the Penobscot village, and may inform, that their Government affairs have been attended to, without much change. The amount of their crops has not been estimated — nor the number of Houses that have been erected the past year ascertained, though we were informed that there had been several.

Opportunity has not offered to visit the Passamaquoddies since last year; but a correspondence has been held with the Agent of the State of Maine for that Tribe, and thro' him we learn that there has been no particular change in their condition since the Report of last year. The sum of $15 has been furnished them through the medium of the State's Agent, to procure seed for planting; and we learn from him that his views have not undergone any change, relative to removing them to their town-ship, as the best means of affording permanent relief for their present suffering condition, and open a way for their advancement in civilization. In this sentiment we fully concur, as did the Committee of last year.

A Friend of New Brunswick has forwarded some statistical and other information, relative to the Tribes in that Province; and like information has been received from Nova Scotia respecting those within her borders; extracts from which have been made, and accompany this Report.

Stephen Jones, jun.
On behalf of Committee.

Rep. 6mo 21, 1845.

P. S. It do not think any appropriation necessary for the Indian service the present year.

Which being read and considered, was acceptable to us; and tho' it affords no very lively evidence of their improvement, it was the sense of the Meeting, that the Friends now under appointment on this concern, [for whose names see page 230,] should be continued for another year; and the statistical information accompanying the Report, respecting the Indians of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia was directed to be placed on file, and a copy of it forwarded to Friends in England.

Wm. F. Howland on behalf of the Committee appointed on 7th day afternoon, to collect subscriptions to aid our Friends of Indiana Yearly Meeting, informed this Meeting, that they had received the sum of $345.75 for this object — which they were requested to pay to Samuel Boyd Tobey, to be by him forwarded to their Meeting for Sufferings, to be appropriated by them to its furtherance in any way that may seem to them most desirable.

The Clerk was authorised to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf — referring in cases of doubt, to the judgment of the Meeting for Sufferings.

David Bellham informed the Meeting that he had given Thomas Richie information of the decision of this Meeting in his case last year.

The Clerk is requested, when there have been instances of Representatives absenting themselves from this Meeting, without rendering satisfactory reasons therefor, to inform the respective Quarterly Meetings from which they came of the fact.

Having assembled at this time under circumstances of peculiar trial some of which we set forth upon our minutes we have to acknowledge with grateful hearts, that it has pleased the Holy Head of the Church, mercifully to remember us, and to make a way for us, enabling us to dispose of the different weighty subjects that have claimed our attention in much unity; and under, as we trust, feelings of humble gratitude for the mercy we have witnessed, we now conclude, proposing to meet again at this place at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

By Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk

Summary of Answers to the Queries, see page 259.

1. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been attended, except eight small meetings for the non-attendance of which satisfactory reasons were assigned. A few small meetings in one Quarterly Meeting under peculiar circumstances, have not been attended; and two instances are noticed in one small Meeting, at which only one member was present. Meetings on first-days are generally attended by most of our members — Midweek Meetings and those for Discipline are more neglected. — The former is nearly observed; mostly clear of unbecoming behaviour, some instances of sleeping excepted — and some care taken.

2. Love and unity are in a good degree maintained by most Friends. — Yet they appear to be much wanting with some. Caution generally guarded against, the more watchfulness is necessary in this respect. Care has been & has been taken to end differences when they have arisen.

3. There is a care with most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, to restrain them from pernicious reading, and from corrupt conversation; and generally to set a good example thereof themselves; yet deficiencies in these respects are noticed. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends' families.

4. Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicine, with a few exceptions, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns. Places of public resort not so fully guarded against by all, as would be best. Moderation and temperance appear to be observed on the occasions referred to.

5. The circumstances of the poor are inspected, their necessities relieved, and their children partake of learning; a few instances are noticed of minors placed from among Friends.

6. Friends are generally careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to Discipline; yet a few instances of deviation are noticed, and some care taken.

7. Generally careful in the observance of this Query, except of a few instances in regard to Priests' wages, and of a military nature in which our testimonies are not fully maintained.

8. With a few exceptions, Friends are careful to inspect their affairs, and settle their accounts and to be just in the payment of their debts — and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

9.

1845 9. Marriages as allowed; Births and deaths mostly recorded. There are a few removals without Certificates; some of which are under notice. 10. Care is taken to deal with offenders, in good degree according to this Query, though not in all cases as seasonably as would be best. Endeavours are used to place judgment when it appears necessary according to discipline.

Epistle

to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings within the limits of the New England Yearly Meeting, and the individual Members of the Society of Friends.

Beloved Friends,

Assembled together at our accustomed time and place for the transaction of the affairs of our religious Society in New-England, with sincere desires for the health and prosperity of all our brethren and sisters in the ever blessed Truth, and the promotion and advancement of the cause of our Redeemer in the earth, circumstances have arisen with which we deem it essential to make you acquainted.

For a long series of years it pleased the Great Head of the Church to watch over us and permit us to meet together in love, and to enable us to resolve the various important matters which came before us to mutual comfort and edification: we have not been without our trials, but strength was afforded to meet them. We were in great measure spared the afflictions which fell upon Friends in various sections of our Society on this Continent, from unsound views in the fundamental doctrines of our holy religion, producing divisions with them, which we continued united and increasing people.

Many of you are nevertheless sensible that for years past a few individuals in some places have given concern to the rightly exercised among us; that of late times this spirit by which they were influenced has shown itself more conspicuously, and led to separation in one of our quarters. Upon our first gathering together at this time several of those who thus caused grief to Friends appeared and presented an account purporting to be from their Quarterly Meeting, which, with sincere desire that they might have a full opportunity of stating their case, and if needful have the decision reversed, was referred in the first place to the Representatives in a body exclusive of those from the Quarterly Meeting from which the two accounts were presented, no objection being made to their case being opened in the Meeting in its collective capacity, should this be satisfactorily judged best. The persons who claimed to be aggrieved, denied the jurisdiction of this Committee, and with others coming to our afternoon sitting, proceeded on what they termed the business of a Yearly Meeting, to the interruption of Friends remaining in the house till the minute of adjournment was read. Since which they have not been with us, but, as we are informed, assembled in another place. Thus effecting the outward work of separation, which had been commenced in a Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting.

During the time alluded to and since, Friends have been mercifully favoured to preserve much mental equanimity and becoming order, proceeding in their business, we trust, in the wisdom of Truth, and in numbers not fewer than in former years.

It is not for us in this communication to enter into those remote causes which have led to this painful result. They might, doubtless, be found in a departure from humble, humble waiting upon Christ and faithfully following the leadings and guidance of his blessed Spirit: by unwatchfulness in this respect the door has been opened for the access of the Brethren to come in. And it may not be wrong to inquire whether there are not herein evidences of a lack of that deep sense of the fallen condition of man, of our need of that redemption which comes by Christ and the value of the means provided for our help. Had those who are now troubling our Israel been grounded in that faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, would they not have found,— as we both what we not all find— that necessity for a deep indwelling with the Spirit of Truth which preserves from such unwatched for and unexpected proceedings.

Dear Friends, we have had and shall have much to bear; misrepresentation of fact in respect of our discipline proceedings; false and utterly unfounded charges of a general unsoundness of doctrine amongst us have been widely circulated, both here and elsewhere where we have been unhappily misunderstood.

We have with great unanimity issued a statement, which has been deliberately read and considered in both our Men's & Women's Meetings, of the facts of the case, and a declaration of our unshaken faith as Christians and as Friends— those documents we earnestly recommend to your serious attention. Connected with this appeal, let us seek after living aspirations to commit our way in well doing unto the Lord.

From the days of our worthy predecessors, George Fox, Robert Barclay, William Penn and others, in every trial of this description which has been permitted Friends in this country or our beloved Mother of Great Britain, charges have been freely made, as of false doctrine, misapplied discipline, the rule and influence of station, gifts, talents, wealth and learning — with what truth, in past days, their invaluable writings set forth — with no more truth we may now say.

Man is fallible; but with the sincerity of action which has attended all the movements in this matter, many of you are acquainted and know full well that the charges are utterly untenable, and proof in these matters unfavorable but affecting, as it is, there seems to be a remarkable withdrawal in many who have fallen into this snare as to results.

During most of the centuries the Yearly Meetings of Friends, have, although independent bodies, occupied much common ground, in addition to that of uniting in the same profession of our Christian faith. Ministers recognized in one, have been so acknowledged, and encouraged to labour in others; the transfer of rights to membership and intermarriage have not been affected by the Yearly Meeting lines.

Regardless of the blessings which these wise provisions of our forefathers have led us to enjoy, the movements now made amount, if not delay, arrangements fraught with indescribable benefit, for no definable, certainly no adequate end— discord is introduced, though it may divide between Meetings, near and dear friends, and even embitter the tenderest relations of life, and

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1845. ...ward onwards with a blind impulsivity as results which nothing but the most obvious reasons — as a manifest departure from living faith, or our long cherished testimonies — could justify.

Instead of Friends and Meetings striving to encourage each other in the faithful maintenance of our religious principles & practices, the ground seem with some more ...ppears to be, the detection of things in which some dissonance of view may be discovered, to the sad overlooking of that "charity which hopeth all things" and the weakening of the Society to the love spirituality, purity and simplicity of the Gospel which we fully believe has been given us as a people, to bear.

In thus faithfully pointing your attention to the evils which have been permitted to overtake us, it is not our object to introduce you into controversy, or awaken any feelings of irritation towards those through whom the offence has come; but on the contrary, we would guard you against it. Controversy, which so generally awakens the worst side, and not unfrequently attacks character, is dangerous to all, and especially to the young. We surely dwell upon or espouse the views of others, without a secret feeling of self-satisfaction, which draws from that which should be the constant concern of life — a close attention to our own faults — its results upon individuals and bodies in the evidences of self-exaltation and a judging spirit, often afforded ought to warn us against entering upon it, as preceding one step beyond the clear openings of Truth; which is to the feelings which ought to prevade our hearts towards our erring Friends, a deep concern for them in their spiritual state, and a prayerful desire for their restoration should ever predominate. Some of them, we doubt not, have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge; that knowledge which in a humble ability before him, to follow the unerring guidance to the sacrificing ...ent, & set ourselves in the right hand or the left hand ones which have sprung up, at different times, found place and prevailed to some in our Society. Let us strive to keep a steady forward course, walking in the footsteps of our faithful ... & followed the Lamb.

We believe, dear Friends, that it is incumbent upon us, in much tenderness to spread before you a caution in regard to the multiplied publications that are now very freely circulated within our limits and elsewhere, affecting darkly our Friends, and to waive the admonition of our Discipline "that no such book, pamphlet or paper, be written, printed, published or privately handed about, by any under our profession." Various publications to which we refer, containing statements, which are not supported by facts, and into which the names of many worthy Friends are very freely introduced, or they in some way designated, and unjustly ...ented, may surely be regarded in the fullest sense pernicious; and as such, they should not be circulated or read.

It has been deeply affecting to us to learn, that under the influence of that delusive spirit to which we have referred, some have accepted the contents of such books, and received written or verbal statements from interested parties with almost equal validity with those contained in publications issued by

regularly constituted bodies of valuable Friends, a description of document, to which implicit credence has heretofore been given — and under such false impressions, have imbibed and urged individual sentiments, against the solid judgment of the body — however they go totally at variance with that into which the Truth leads.

The advice contained in an ancient epistle, put forth by George Whitehead, Stephen Crisp and others in the year 1666, is applicable to our day, and we urge it upon your serious attention. "If any who are out of the unity with the body of Friends, print or cause to be printed or published in writing anything which is not of service for the Truth, but tends to the reproach & scandal of faithful Friends, or to expose or uphold division or faction; then we do warn and charge all Friends that love the Truth, as they desire it may prosper and be kept clear, to beware and take heed of having any hand in printing, publishing or spreading such books or writings."

Beloved Brethren and Sisters — We commend you to the Lord for safety — we fervently crave your preservation, and that you may witness a unity one with another in the true fellowship and love of the Gospel. In this Meeting various epistles from our Friends of other Yearly Meetings have been read to our comfort, and we have felt it to be a peculiar blessing and cause for thankfulness that we have been favoured with the company of divers concerned and qualified Friends from different Yearly Meetings, whose sympathy, unity, and advice, have been truly acceptable, comforting and instructive to us. This Meeting has been closely united, and we have been enabled to travel together in sweet and harmonious labour for the cause of Truth.

We are now about to separate, under a humbling sense of the love and mercy of the adorable Head, that He has condescended to be near, and as we trust, to direct us in the steps that we should take in His militant Church. We bid you affectionately farewell. May you be favoured to possess your souls in patience, ordering all things for Christ's sake — that through watchful waiting unto prayer, you may be enabled to perceive the subtle snares of the adversary of souls, and in the silence of all flesh, distinguish between the voice of the true Shepherd and that of the stranger. To this unslumbering Shepherd we commend you. He still careth for the flock, and as they hearken to and obey his voice, will, blessed be his Name, keep them in his safe enclosure now and forever. — Amen.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held by adjournments from the 15th to the 23d inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1845

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.
Hannah Gould, jun.r Clerk.

1845.

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held in Rhode Island, from the 15th to the 23d, inclusive, of the Sixth Month, 1845.

To other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

We have been made thankful to the Lord for the renewed favour of being again permitted to meet together for the transaction of the affairs of the Church. And we trust we have been enabled, under trying circumstances, measurably to feel the supporting arm of Divine mercy, during the continuance of our Meeting. The love of God in Christ Jesus, as it is the only sure bond of union between Christian brethren, so it is the support of all, who in meekness desire to be found faithful to Him. And when shed abroad in the heart, unites the devoted followers of the Lamb to rejoice even in suffering — cheering the drooping heart, comforting the mourner, encouraging the despondent and fearful, — and is made to abound in fruitfulness in work and service in his blessed cause. — From this Divine root, and from this alone, springs true love to the brethren. — For as we come to be partakers together of the mercy and goodness of God through our Lord and Saviour, that sweet union and fellowship is witnessed, so dear to the disciples of Christ, and so essential to his Church. We have greatly desired that by submitting to the baptisms, necessary for our purification, and for the preparation of our hearts to become true members of His church, we may mercifully witness the lifting up of the light of His countenance upon us. — And we have been encouraged by his blessed words, — I am the way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me, and again, Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out. How comforting and blessed words to the seeking soul, — burthened with the infirmities and corruptions of fallen nature, and with a sense of utter unworthiness in his sight. To such the means of salvation when graciously unfolded, — the atoning blood of Christ, mercifully applied by the quickening operations of his Holy Spirit, and a desire of preserving grace through Him who is set forth to be a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world, — become unspeakably precious.

Your acceptable Epistle of last year was received and read in this Meeting, and the brotherly sympathy and advice therein communicated, have been truly satisfactory to us. We desire that the feelings of near unity which have always subsisted between Friends in your land and in New England, may continue and increase to our mutual comfort.

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We have been afresh dipped into mourning in view of declensions in the dear support of our Christian testimonies, yet we have thankfully to acknowledge our belief, that the doctrines of the Gospel of Christ, held and maintained by our worthy predecessors in religious profession are unabatedly dear to many among us. We have greatly desired that the number of these may increase, and that through the purifying operations of the baptism of Christ, and abiding under his power, such may from day to day come to witness his saving hand upon them, qualifying them for more extended usefulness in his Church.

We have been enabled at this time to transact the affairs of the Church in a feeling of near unity one with another, and although it is a day of mourning to the sincere hearted, in which we have had much to suffer, yet the good Shepherd of Israel has, we humbly trust, been graciously pleased to favour us at times with the blessed evidence that He hath not forgotten to be gracious, that His arm is not shortened that it cannot save, nor His ear grown heavy that it cannot hear. And inasmuch as we are of the Lord's witnesses, we can, we trust, speak of his goodness to the praise of His great name.

We have the painful intelligence to communicate, that in one of our Quarterly Meetings, several individuals having become disaffected with Friends, had separated themselves from them, and established a Meeting under the same name. During our present Meeting, these disaffected individuals have been joined by a few others from other Quarterly Meetings, & have held a Meeting by themselves, under the name of this Yearly Meeting. We believe the numbers of these disaffected towards Friends, wither our borders, to be comparatively small, and are comforted in the view, that the body of Friends among us are united in harmony of feeling and of labours for the promotion of the cause of Truth.

We have had at this time, the truly acceptable company of our dear Friends, John Pease and Isaiah Carson jr. in your Yearly Meeting.

With the salutation of love, We are your Friends
and Brethren,
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting by
Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

"

Our Correspondents with your Yearly Meeting, are
William Jenkins, Providence, R. I.
David Peckham, Newport, R. I.
Abraham Shearman, Jun.r New Bedford, Massachusetts,
and Samuel Boyd Tobey, Providence, R. I.
The latter in place of our late beloved friend Thos. Howland,
deceased since our last Yearly Meeting.

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To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

On reading your acceptable Epistle of last year, together with Epistles from London, and from the Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent, we were made sensible of the benefits of a correspondence of this kind. In times of trial and affliction, which are sometimes permitted to befal the Church, and of which we have been partakers at this time; it cannot be otherwise than encouraging to those who thus tread, to receive an expression of sympathy and regard from their distant brethren, by which it is made apparent that they are of the same family.

This Meeting has been introduced into exercise on account of the deficiencies which exist amongst us, as they appear by the accounts from our Quarterly Meetings, and in consideration of the many temptations and besetting things that surround us; amongst which the many pernicious publications that are spread the land, is not the least. Under this exercise much salutary counsel has been imparted to us. —— The youth have been counselled in a tender and affectionate manner; and many of them, we trust, have in measure experienced in their hearts the operation of the pure witness which testifies against all evil. May they and all of us become settled, and so abide under the sanctifying influence of the Spirit of Truth, that each one being found in his proper place, the heritage may be preserved from falling into the hands of the destroyer. These indeed are perilous times. We cannot doubt that you also have your trials and difficulties. May all Israel abide in their tents according to their tribes, that no enchantment may prevail against Jacob, and no divination against Israel, that all may be in a situation to receive a blessing.

We have been forcibly reminded, dear Friends, of our unworthiness, and of our inability of ourselves to perform any service to the honour of Truth; and it has been a time of deep humiliation. Yet through the tender mercies and adorable condescension of the great Head of the Church and Comforter of His people, we have been favoured at this time, as well as at other times, to lift up our heads in hope, and to feel that we have been refreshed by His presence.

Our Meeting has been large, and there have been in attendance a considerable number of our dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose sympathy and affectionate counsel have been precious to us. Under a sense of the favour we have received, we have been enabled to transact the weighty affairs that have come before us, in much harmony & unanimity.

With the salutation of love, we are Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shoemaker, Jun.r Clerk.

[For Publication see next page.]

P.S. We believe it right to communicate to you the painful intelligence that in one of our Quarterly Meetings several individuals having become disaffected with Friends, had since our last Yearly Meeting, separated themselves from them, and established a Meeting under the name of that from which they had withdrawn. And that during our present Meeting, these disaffected individuals have been joined by a few others from other Quarterly Meetings, and have held a Meeting by themselves, under the name of this Yearly Meeting. We believe the number of these disaffected towards Friends within our borders, to be comparatively small; and are comforted in the view, that the body of Friends among us are united in harmony of feeling and of labour for the promotion of the cause of Truth.

[Our Correspondents with the Yearly Meeting of Ireland, same as given at the close of the Epistle to London.]

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Under an humbling sense of the Goodness of our Heavenly Father, who has condescended to bless this, our annual assembly, with his life-giving presence, reinspecting our minds under varied and deep trials, and enabling us to transact the weighty affairs of the Church with much unity and brotherly love, we salute you, desiring that "Grace may be with all them that love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

If this love were duly cherished in our hearts, we believe that love to our brethren would follow as the inevitable consequence. "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen."

We have been afresh convinced at this time, that without His holy help from whom all good cometh, we can do nothing to promote His cause in the earth, or our own eternal welfare. May we then be animated to seek daily for fresh supplies of that spiritual bread, which cometh down from heaven, and nourisheth the soul unto everlasting life. May we be concerned to cast all our cares upon Him, and to remember under every dispensation of His Providence, that He doeth all things well.

The Committee having charge of our Boarding School at Providence made a report upon its concerns, which was satisfactory to this Meeting. We cherish the hope that this increasing institution will receive such encouragement from our members as will enable it to answer the design for which it was established, that of affording to the Youth of our religious Society, the means of obtaining a guarded, literary and religious education, exempt from those contaminating influences which are abroad in the world.

The right ordering of our families, the religious training of our youth, and the frequent perusal of the Holy Scriptures,

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tures, accompanied with opportunities of religious retirement, were subjects which occupied the attention of this Meeting, and Friends were affectionately encouraged to faithfulness therein. Believing as we do, in the secret and gentle influences of the Spirit of Truth upon our minds, and that these are not at our command, how necessary is it for us to maintain a state of watchfulness unto prayer, that the engrossing cares of life, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things, may not choke the heavenly word of the kingdom, and render it unfruitful.

[Here follows the paragraph in regard to the occasion, directed to be inserted in all our Epistles to the other Yearly Meetings of Friends on this Continent ---- for which see pages 265, '66, of these records.]

Your acceptable Epistle of the 4th month last, as well as one from each of the other Yearly Meetings except North Carolina, was received and read at this time.

With the salutation of love, we remain your Friends & Brethren
Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by
Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

To New York.

Dear Friends,

In a renewed sense of that love which unites us as brethren, however circumstanced, and whether more or more remotely situated, we tenderly salute you, greatly desiring that we may all be preserved on that immutable foundation, which alone stands the test — that which has been the foundation of the just in all ages; even that which by a renewed visitation of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of our worthy predecessors, was the foundation to which they were led, and on which they were enabled to build to the honour of His ever blessed Name.

The present has been indeed a season of deep exercise and suffering to all who are concerned among us for the right ordering of the affairs of Truth, and for the preservation of those precious testimonies which have come down to us thro a long line of devoted servants, from the earliest period of our being gathered as a people. And we feel that on the present occasion the testimony of the Apostle has been strikingly exemplified, that when "one member suffers, all the members suffer with it," and under a sense of its truth, we trust that if we all continue faithfully to abide under the chastening hand of the Divine Master, as becomes his dependent children, until He shall be pleased to say, "It is enough," we shall not through adorable love and mercy be favoured also to rejoice together.

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been favoured to transact the important business of the Church that has come before us with much unanimity and brotherly love,

and the weighty counsel and advices with which we have been favoured at this time from some of our brethren from other Yearly Meetings, now in attendance with us, have greatly strengthened our hands, and has produced feelings of thankfulness to the great Head of the Church, that He has been pleased thus to regard us.

Among the subjects that have claimed the attention of this Meeting, none seem more important than a full and explicit declaration of our faith and belief in the doctrines and testimonies of the Gospel, as professed by our early Friends.

[Here follows the paragraph on page 265, 66 commencing, "We have the pleasant intelligence to communicate" &c.— and omit about five lines.]

Your acceptable Epistle of the fifth month last has been received, and read to our satisfaction.

With the salutations of love, we are your Friends signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

In having again been permitted to assemble in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, for the transacting of the important concerns of our religious Society, we have gratefully to acknowledge, that though we came together under a deep sense of our own weakness and inability to perform any good word or work, and discouragements have been permitted to assail, yet we have at times been favoured, unworthy as we have felt ourselves to be, to sit together under the canopy of Love, and to witness it thro' great mercy, as a covering to our spirits;— so that He who ordereth all things well, and in former days graciously condescended to turn the water into wine, has in his own good time afforded us a little refreshment; and we feel it incumbent upon us to commemorate his goodness and mercy, who is over all things to his Church. To his great Name be all the praise.

Your acceptable Epistle of the 10th month last, was received and read to our satisfaction and comfort, and our distant brethren have been brought afresh to our remembrance, and we have been made to feel that all to whom Christ is precious, have no private ends to gain; for the cause which we have espoused is not our own, though very dear unto us, even causing our minds to be covered with mourning, when it is assailed by the adversary of all good, whose most specious guise is that of an angel of light. A spirit of disorganization, the effect of that seed which "an enemy" hath sown, has shown itself amongst us; but we are thankful in believing, that the great body of Friends are still firmly united, and attached to the doctrines and testimonies promulgated by our early predecessors in the truth.

Our

1845

Our Meeting has been large, and we have been enabled to act upon the concerns that have claimed our attention with much unity and brotherly love; and it is our warmest desire that all who profess the name of Friends, may know for themselves, in the language of a deeply experienced Christian, that "Zion" is a city at unity with itself, under the seamless garment of Christ Jesus, and those all are well and safe and flourishing."

We noticed with satisfaction your concern in relation to the iniquities of slavery, and the deep wrongs which the aboriginies of our country are still suffering. May you, with us, be always alive to those claims upon us as a nation.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends, signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

William Shearman, jun.' Clerk.

["Paragraph on the Exclusion," pp. 265, '66.]

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

In the fellowship of the Gospel, we again salute you as brethren and servants have been our desires, that our dear Friends every where, may be seeking an establishment on that foundation that standeth sure; so that though there may be a scattering in Jacob and a dividing in Israel, we shall be found cleaving unto Him to whom he hath promised, "When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee, and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee."

The rights or ordering of our families, and the religious training of our beloved offspring, have claimed a share of the exercise of the Meeting; and parents have been feelingly exhorted to set apart a portion of time daily for the reading of the Holy Scriptures in their families, observing both before and after such exercise, a time of silence, that their minds may be turned in reverent dependence unto Him from whom flow all our blessings. And we have believed as this duty is faithfully performed, and the gentle intimations of the Spirit of Truth in the secret of the heart are obeyed, we shall be enabled at times on these occasions, to offer those sacrifices which our heavenly Father will deign to accept; even those of broken hearts and contrite spirits; our affections will gradually be weaned from the transitory things of earth, and be more and more fixed on the enduring realities of Heaven. The kind of reading also that falls in the way of many of our young people, has been a subject of anxious solicitude. Our land at the present day abounds with publications, many of which are light and trivial, and not a few decidedly pernicious. The reading of such books produces a distaste for those that are solid and edifying; and especially for the perusal of the sacred Volume; and we have felt it to be our duty, affectionately to warn our junior members against being taken in this snare of the enemy.

Our

Our Meeting has been largely, and we have had the company of many of our dear youngest Brethren; to whom we must look for a succession of Labourers in the Lord's vineyard; and while we have deeply felt the loss of some who have long stood as pillars in the Church, but who, through adorable mercy, we doubt not have entered into their rest, we have felt the consolatory assurance from the weighty deportment of many of our young Friends, that they are gradually submitting their wills to the yoke of Christ, and becoming qualified to unite with their elder Brethren in the support of those Christian doctrines and testimonies, for the maintenance of which our worthy predecessors in religious profession so long and so deeply suffered.

The condition of the Indian Tribes within our limits continues to claim our Christian sympathy and regard, and by the report of our Committee having charge of the concern, it appears that they are making some progress in the arts and habits of civilized life.

We have received at this time Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings on this continent, except from yours, and also from those of London and Dublin.

With the salutation of love, we are your Friends, Signed on behalf and by direction of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun. Clerk.

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1 New letters Abs. passages on Revision — for — in Vol. 2 see pages 265, 66.

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Being assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we again salute you in Christian love. We still believe that in transacting the weighty affairs of the Church, a reverent dependence upon our glorified Head, for wisdom and strength, is alike our duty and our safety; and on the present occasion, coming together, as we did, in much weakness and fear, we were deeply impressed with the truth, that "unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it, unless the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." But thanks be to the good Shepherd, we have, after encountering severe trials, been permitted to partake of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and evident have been our desires, that we may be increasingly dedicated to fulfil His gracious purposes who gathered our worthy predecessors to be a people, and committed to them those doctrines and peculiar testimonies which are still dear to us, and which are founded, as we believe, in the unchangeable Truth.

We noticed with interest your concern for the religious and literary instruction of the youth within your borders; and although but a small number of Friends may directly receive the benefit of your Boarding School, yet, thro' them, others may indirectly partake of the same. Our —— Boarding School still claims a lively interest in the minds of Friends, and continues to be a prosperous and useful Institution.

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In connection with the situation and prospects of the rising generation, parents have, at this time, been encouraged to appropriate a portion of time daily, to a reverent waiting upon our Heavenly Father, and to the serious reading of the Holy Scriptures in a family capacity. We were affectionately reminded that these opportunities would often be blessed to the domestic circle, in a renewed extension of Heavenly good

Our Yearly Meeting has been large, and we have the truly acceptable company of several dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings.

With the renewed salutation of love, we remain,

Your Friends and Brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun^r Clk.

P.S. The following paragraph was directed to be inserted in all the Epistles forwarded by us at this time, to Friends of other Yearly Meetings on this Continent.

— [See pages 265.—'66.]

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

We have received and read at this time, your acceptable Epistle of 10th mo. last, together with Epistles from London and Dublin, and from each of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, except North-Carolina; and in the reading of them have been made sensible of the animating power of that love which binds in religious fellowship all true members of the Christian church however widely they may be separated in their allotments in life. And we desire to be favored with right qualification to maintain this Epistolary intercourse, that it may be more and more witnessed to be a means of our being refreshed and strengthened together in the Lord.

The state of Society as presented by the answers to the Queries, still continues to exhibit deficiencies amongst us, and much excellent counsel has been called forth, and fervent desires expressed, that by abiding in that light which preserves in safety, we may experience a growth in grace, and in the knowledge of the ever blessed Truth.

Our annual assembly has been large, and attended by many our young Friends, whose weighty and solid deportment has evinced that they have in some measure yielded themselves to the visitations of Divine Grace, and have come to experience in degree that the pleasures and allurements of this world are light and trivial in comparison with the unsearchable riches of Christ.

The present has been a season of peculiar trial with us, yet, dear Brethren, we feel found thankfully to acknowledge that the Lord's power has been at times mercifully experienced, and we feel comforted in the assurance that He will never leave nor forsake any who put their trust in Him. Oh, may we yield ourselves more implicitly

unto the power of his Grace, until purified from every thing which his holy controversy is against.

We have been favoured at this time with the company of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labors of love in the Gospel have been acceptable and edifying.

We are your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Abraham Shearman, jun.r Clerk.

P.S. The same is added to the Epistle to Ohio, on preceding page.

I, Samuel Boyd Jobey of Providence in the State of Rhode Island, do Solemnly affirm & declare that I am the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends for New England and am the keeper of the Records & Archives of the same; — I further declare that this volume is the original Record of the proceedings of the said Yearly Meeting for the years 1836 and 1847 and the years between those periods; — I further declare that Abraham Sherman Junior was the Clerk of the said Yearly Meeting during the year 1845, and that I was the Assistant Clerk thereof at the same time; — I further declare that the Records contained in all the preceding pages of this book are in the handwriting of the said Shearman which is well known to me —

Samuel Boyd Jobey

Suffolk ss. June 6. 1857. Personally appeared before me, Samuel Boyd Jobey and Solemnly affirmed that the aforegoing declaration subscribed by him is true — and that he did under the pains & penalties of perjury —

Charles T. Cowley
Justice of Peace

Finished recording 12mo 23d 1857

1846.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for Worship at Newport and Portsmouth on First day the 14th of Sixth month 1846- and at Newport for Discipline on second day morning the 15th.-

By accounts received from our several Quarterly Meetings we are informed that they have appointed the following Friends as Representatives to this Meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island, Rowland Greene, Joseph Metcalf, Edmund Chace, David Buffum, John Meader and Thomas Anthony.

" Salem, Estes Newhall, Newell Ordway, Joshua Page, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Stephen A. Chase, Herod Chace, Oliver D Rogers, Micajah C Pratt and Samuel Boyce.

" Sandwich, John Howland, Isaac R Gifford, Zeno Kelly, William Potter, John Potter, William C Taber, Samuel Gifford, Ebenezer Wing, Moses T Rogers and Otis Slocum.

" Falmouth, Thomas Jones, Nathan Pope, John W. Minot, David Allen, Joseph Cook, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Caleb Jones and Lewis A. Estes.

" Smithfield, Rowland Rathbun, Moses Tanner, Arnold Aldrich 2d Thomas Grover, James N. Fry, Richard Battey, Edward Foster and John Osborne.

" Vassalboro' Cornelius Douglass, Asa Jones, Stephen Jones Jr. David Robinson, Elisha Jones, Alton Pope and Clement Rackliff.

" Dover, John D Lang, Benajah Buffum, Asa C. Tuttle, Timothy Hanson and Samuel Dennis.

" Fairfield, Allen Wing, Joseph Taylor, David Douglass, Elijah Pope and Arnold Gifford,

whose names being called, they were all present but one, whose attendance we are informed is prevented by sickness in his family.

We have at this Meeting the acceptable company of our friend Basheba G. Herendeen from Farmington Monthly Meeting, New York, a Certificate from which meeting endorsed by Farmington Quarterly Meeting, expressive of the unity of her friends with her as a Minister and with her present religious engagement was read: We have also the acceptable company of Gideon Herendeen, companion of his wife, and of our friend Zebulon Weaver from Smyrna Monthly Meeting New York, and satisfactory minutes from their respective Meetings were also read

We have received at this time the London printed Epistle of last year which has been read and is truly acceptable and salutary to us. And in order that our members generally may have the benefit of the counsel contained therein we appoint Samuel Boyce and Wm C. Taber to cause 3000 copies to be printed and distributed in the usual proportions to the Quarterly Meetings, and call on the Treasurer of this Meeting for the cost.

We have received at this Meeting an acceptable Epistle addressed to us from the Yearly Meeting held in London last year (which was

seasonably received to be read in our last Yearly Meeting.) Also one of last year from our brethren of Ireland, and one from New York, Baltimore, North Carolina and Indiana; which have been very satisfactory to us, giving a renewed evidence that we are one wherever situated, bound together by the cords of Christian fellowship. And we appoint the following Friends to take them into consideration, and, as way opens for it, to prepare epsays to the several Yearly Meetings of Friends, viz, Thomas Anthony, Stephen A. Chase, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Peres Peck, Rowland Greene, David Buffum, Caleb Jones, Samuel Boyce, Eli Jones, William C. Taber, John Browne, Nowell Hoxie, John J. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Richard Bailey, Charles Atherton, Samuel Taylor Jun^r, John Meader, Ebⁿ Shearman Jun^r, Allen Pope, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Stephen Jones Jr., Joseph H. Cole, Joseph Davis, William Mitchell, Charles K. Tucker, John Warren, Benjamin Fry, Isaac R. Gifford, Joseph Metcalf, Jacob H. Vining, Benjamin H. Jones, and Daniel Taber.

By accounts received at this time, it appears that Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Swanzey Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Elisa Eaton and Elizabeth Shove; with Greenwich in that of William S Perry and Benjamin Greene, and with Providence, in the appointment of Jonathan Congdon and William Jenkins (the latter since deceased,) to the station of Elders: That Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Salem Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Nathan Wood and Mary E. Wood to the station of Elders, and with Seabrook Monthly Meeting in the appointment of William Peyes to the same station - that it has united with Weare Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Elizabeth Page, and with Salem Monthly Meeting in disapproving the public appearances in the ministry of Nathan Page, and in displacing Jonathan Nichols from the station of Elder: That Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Newell Hoxie, with Dartmouth in approving the public appearances of Phebe R Gifford, and with New Bedford in approving the public appearances of Rhoda Rowland Jr., and with Pembroke Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Mary Shepherd to the station of an Elder. Sandwich likewise informs that Hezekiah Swain, Prince Gardner, Peleg Mitchell, Mary Macy and Elizabeth Mitchell formerly members of the Select Meeting have been disowned from Society by Nantucket Monthly Meeting, and also that Mary Davis formerly an approved Minister, and Beth Davis and Phebe Tripp formerly Elders, have been disowned by Dartmouth Monthly Meeting: That Smithfield Quarterly Meeting has united with Smithfield Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Lydia K Hilly and with Uxbridge in the appointment of Polly Southwick to the station of an Elder: That Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting has united with Vassalborough Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Daniel Taber to the station of an Elder, and with Unity in the appointment of Margaret Rackliff to the same station: That Dover Quarterly Meeting has united with Dover Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the Ministry of Joseph Tuttle,

and

and with the same Meeting in the appointment of Ruth Sawyer to the station of Elder, and with Berwick, in the appointment of Joseph Brackett and Salome C. Brackett, to the same station - with Dover in the appointment of Tobias Meader and Sarah Leighton to the station of Elders, and in approving the public appearances in the ministry of Hannah G. Sawyer, and also that they have united with Berwick Monthly Meeting in displacing Joshua Meader and Thebe Meader from the station of Elders

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Met pursuant to adjournment.

Our dear friend Abraham Sherman Junr who has for many years faithfully and acceptably served this Meeting as Clerk, desiring now to be released from that service on account of bodily infirmities, Thomas Jones, on behalf of the Representatives, reports that they have conferred together and are united in proposing Samuel Boyd Tobey for Clerk, and John Osborne for Assistant Clerk: which nominations being approved by the Meeting, they are appointed to that service for the ensuing year.

The accounts received at this time from Salem, Sandwich and Dover Quarterly Meetings, severally convey to this Meeting information that since our last Yearly Meeting, within the limits of each of said Quarterly Meetings, proceedings have taken place which have resulted in the holding of meetings under the name, and claiming the character, of each of said Quarterly Meetings respectively, but which have acknowledged no subordination to this Yearly Meeting; and also to the holding of meetings claiming to be Monthly Meetings within the limits of several of the Monthly Meetings respectively, but acknowledging no subordination to the said Quarterly Meetings. The account from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting also informs us that Meetings under the names of their several Monthly Meetings, except Greenwich, but acknowledging no subordination to that Quarterly Meeting, have also been held.

The painful circumstances thus brought to our view of separate organizations under our name and within our limits claiming the character of Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of the Society of Friends, have engaged our serious consideration, and resulted in the conclusion to refer the whole subject to the Representatives now in attendance on this Meeting from Falmouth, Smithfield, Vassalborough and Fairfield Quarterly Meetings, in which no separation has taken place, Viz: Thomas Jones, Nathan Tope, John W. Allinot, David Allen, Joseph Cook, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Caleb Jones, Lewis A. Estes, Rowland Rathbun, * * * * * * * Arnold Aldrich 2d, Thomas Grover, James N. Fry, Richard Battey, Edward Foster, John Osborne, Cornelius Douglass, Asa Jones, Stephen Jones Jr., David Robinson, Elisha Jones, Alton Tope, Clement Rackliff, Allen Wing, Joseph Taylor, David Douglass, Elijah Tope and Arnold Gifford, whom we appoint a Committee to take the accounts from Rhode Island, Salem, Sandwich, and Dover Quarterly Meetings referred to in this Minute into their consideration; and they are desired to inquire into the circumstances which have produced results so much to be regretted of separate Meetings, claiming

the name and character of Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of Friends, being held; and they are requested to notify the Representatives from each of said Quarterly Meetings now in attendance on this Meeting, and such other persons as they shall judge proper, in order for a full knowledge of the case, of the time and place of their meeting, and give a hearing to all parties claiming to be heard upon the matters refered to them: and having so heard and deliberated to report to this Meeting such circumstances as seem to them material to a proper judgment for this Meeting to come to in relation to the matter referred to them - and also their own sense and judgment in relation thereto.

The Records of this Meeting for the year 1845 were read at this time.

WE appoint our friends Thomas Hawkins, Wm A. Robinson, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Enoch Page, William C. Taber, William Mitchell, Joshua Douglass, Rufus Eaton, Richard Battey, Arnold Aldrich 2d, Asa Jones, Joseph H Cole, Benajah Buffum, Asa C Tuttle, Joseph Taylor and Winslow Hawks to take the answers to the Queries now received from our Quarterly Meetings, and prepare a summary thereof to be presented at our next sitting

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Third day morning the 16th Friends met by adjournment.

The Representatives being called, were present as yesterday.

The committee having the superintendance of the Boarding School at Providence presented their Annual Report, which was read: and while the care thus manifested by the committee is satisfactory to this Meeting, yet in view of the importance of the concern, and with desires that the greatest amount of good may be dispensed to the members of our Religious Society from an Institution established, as we doubt not, in vest wisdom, and endowed and cherished by beloved friends deeply concerned for the promotion of Truth, and the preservation and guarded education of the children of this Society, we are induced now to appoint our friends David Buffum, John Meader, John Howland, William Mitchell, Benjamin H. Jones, Samuel Boyd Tobey, George Howland, Stephen A. Chase, John Osborne, Isaac R. Gifford, Alton Pope, John D. Long, Stephen Jones Jr., Richard Battey, John Page Jr., Asa Jones, Edward P. Little, Nathan Douglass Caleb Jones, Edmond Bates, Samuel Taylor Jr., Perez Peck, Eli Jones, Jacob Purington, Abraham Shearman Jr. James Cornell, Jacob Roberts, Samuel Boyce, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Alden Wing, Daniel Taber, Isaac Lawrence, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Moses F. Rogers, David Douglass, Joseph Metcalf, Joshua Page, Elisha Jones, Daniel Smiley, Ebenezer Wing, John Warren, Benjamin Fry, Thomas Anthony, Timothy C. Collins, Rowland Greene, Alden Sampson, Daniel K. Bailey, a Committee to take the whole subject into their solid consideration, and if after careful deliberation they are prepared to propose any change either in the Committee, or in the manner of their discharging the duties of their appointment, or to make any other suggestion that they apprehend will promote the interests of the Institution, they are requested to report the same to a future sitting of this Meeting. They are also desired to consider of and report to this Meeting, a suitable friend for Treasurer of the School Fund, in place of our late friend William Jenkins, deceased; and also to propose the

names of a few friends to act as an advisory Committee to the Treasurer in the investment and management of the funds of the Institution.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before us at this time and read; and the evidence thus given of the exercises and care of that Meeting for the promotion of the cause of Truth and the preservation of our Religious Society, is satisfactory to us: and the Committee, appointed this morning in relation to the School is requested to propose to a future sitting, the names of suitable friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year. The subject of the expenses of the Yearly Meeting, and the apportionment of the same among the different Quarterly Meetings being brought into view by the reading of the Records of the Meeting for Sufferings, we refer the same to the consideration of the Representatives now in attendance on this Meeting, who are requested to report their views to a future sitting. By the accounts received it appears that the necessary attention has been given by the several Quarterly Meetings to the raising of the Stock called for by this Meeting last year, and we appoint our friends Peter Peck, Micajah C. Pratt, Charles K. Tucker, Rufus Horton, Rowland Rathbun, Joseph Taber, Benajah Buffum and Abner Sampson to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, consider of a sum suitable to be raised for the use of this Meeting, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again assembled.

The state of Society was investigated by reading the Answers to the Queries from the several Quarterly Meetings; a summary of which, embracing the substance of the answers received, prepared by the Committee appointed yesterday for that purpose, is as follows, viz:

1. All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been duly held with the exception of a few small meetings reported in the accounts from four of our Quarters occasioned principally by inclement weather. Meetings on First days appear to have been generally attended by most of our members except by those who have seceded from us, while mid-week meetings, and those for discipline are much neglected by some. The hour is generally observed. Some instances of sleeping are noticed in all the answers - of other unbecoming behaviour mostly clear. Some care is reported in most of the answers to have been taken in the above deficiences.

2. Love and unity appear to be in a good degree maintained, and detraction generally guarded against. Care appears to have been taken to end differences when they have appeared, except in one instance

3. A care is manifested by most Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness, to restrain them from pernicious reading, and from corrupt conversation, and to be good examples, herein, themselves - while some appear to be remiss in these respects. The Holy Scriptures appear to be frequently read in Friends' families.

4. Friends are generally careful to avoid the use of Spirituous Liquors, except for medicine; the unnecessary frequenting of Taverns and places of

public resort. A few exceptions are noticed in the answers from some of our Quarterly Meetings. Moderation appears to be maintained on the occasions referred to.

5. The circumstances of the poor are attended to, and their necessities relieved. Their children partake of learning to fit them for business. Care is manifested in regard to placing out.

6. Friends are mostly careful that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline. Some exceptions are however noticed; in most of which care has been taken

7. Friends are careful to maintain our testimonies in these respects, with the exception of a falling short in the maintenance of our testimony to a free Gospel Ministry noticed in the answers from one of our Quarters, and one case of a military nature, which is under notice, in another.

8. Friends are generally careful in the several parts of this Query; yet there appears to be some deficiency in a few cases herein.

9. Friends are careful as to recording marriages. Births, deaths and burials not so fully attended to. A few removals without certificate are reported, some of which are under notice.

10. A concern appears to rest with most Friends to deal with offenders as queried and to place judgment according to discipline.

While engaged in this important concern much pertinent counsel and exhortation were offered by concerned brethren. Parents were earnestly entreated not to neglect the important duty of attending meetings both on First day, and in the middle of the week, and of taking with them their tender offspring; that, as it pleaseth our Heavenly Father often to visit the minds of children in very early life, a lasting blessing might be received by them from this religious care of their parents. We were tenderly, and impressively exhorted to guard against pernicious reading, in the various forms, in which, at this day, it is presented, and encouraged to promote in our families, with great faithfulness, the diligent reading of the Holy Scriptures. We were feelingly cited to our individual experience, when, in the day of our espousals we were visited by the Spirit of the Lord, and in tenderness before Him, we entered into holy covenant to serve Him; and were earnestly entreated to yield unreservedly to the requirements of Truth; that HE who has begun a good work in our hearts may carry it on until the day of Jesus Christ. The young were affectionately encouraged to look confidingly unto the Lord for preservation and for strength, that in the end they may wear a crown of life.

Adjourned to the 11th hour tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning the 17th Friends met pursuant to adjournment.

The Representatives being called, were present, as at our previous sittings.

The Committee in relation to the concern of this Meeting for the welfare of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians made the following Report, viz:

"To N England Yearly Meeting of Friends".

The Committee having charge of the concern of this Meeting for the welfare of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians, report.

That

That several of the Committee have met quarterly at Vassalborough to take into consideration the subject of their appointment, and render such advice and assistance to this injured people, as occasion might require, & opportunity offer. The Committee have not visited either Tribe as in former years, and the principal information we have received relative to their condition, has been obtained from the Indian Agent of the State of Maine for the Penobscot Tribe. He informs that a part of the Penobscots are doing well. Several new buildings have been erected since last year, and their stock of cattle and horses have increased. Mare and Ox teams are owned by them, and employed by the Agent to do the ploughing for the Tribe. Their crops as far as we know were nearly as usual; except the potato crop which suffered great damage in common with others. The unprecedented freshet at the time of the ice breaking up in the Penobscot river last Spring, swept off two of their buildings, and damaged some others. It is the opinion of the Agent, that this Tribe is rather improving.

The Passamaquoddies are located nearly two hundred miles from the nearest member of the Committee, and as before stated have not been visited since the report made to this Meeting last year. But nothing since has come to our knowledge, to change the sentiment then offered, of the only practicable measure to be taken to render this people any permanent benefit, viz: a removal of the whole Tribe to their Township of new land.

We would recommend that the care of Friends be extended to these suffering people,

Moses Taber,
on behalf of the Committee.

which is acceptable to us; and with a hope that some usefulness may continue to result from the attention of Friends to this interesting concern, we are united in appointing a Committee to extend such attention to the wants, and with a view to the improvement of these Tribes in every manner in which way may open for; and they are especially encouraged to endeavour to visit and afford them such counsel and assistance as they may be enabled to do: And we appoint our friends John D Lang, Asa Jones, Stephen Jones Jr, Joseph Taber, Caleb Jones, Moses Taber, John Warren, John Meader, Nathan Douglass, Allen Wing, Alden Pope, Caleb Nichols and Daniel Taber for this service, who are requested to report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee of this Meeting in relation to our concern for the Aborigines west of the Mississippi made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting"

The Committee on Indian Concerns, West of the Mississippi, report - That no opening has presented during the past year; for any action on their behalf; yet we feel sufficient encouragement to believe, that the

time is not far distant, when labour may profitably be bestowed. We therefore recommend the appointment of a Committee to act as way may open for it.

On behalf of the Committee,
John Howland.

Newport 6mo. 17. 1846

which is satisfactory to us: and the Friends now under appointment, with the exception of our Friend William Jenkins, deceased, are continued to act in conjunction with the Committee of the Yearly Meeting of New York, & any other Meeting that may unite in the concern, in pursuing the original objects of their appointment.

Adjourned to the 5th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. The Meeting again assembled pursuant to adjournment.

We appoint Thomas Anthony, David Buffum and Rowland Greene to propose to a future sitting of this Meeting, the name of a suitable Friend for a Correspondent of this Meeting in place of our friend William Jenkins, deceased.

The Meeting for Sufferings is requested to examine the act of Incorporation of this Yearly Meeting; and if, in their judgment, any amendment is required therein, they are desired to take the necessary measures to effect the object.

The Committee appointed on Second day the 15th, consisting of the Representatives from Falmouth, Smithfield & Scalsbury & Fairfield Quarterly Meetings, to whom were referred the accounts from Rhode Island, Salem, Sandwich and Dover Quarterly Meetings in relation to separations that have taken place in our Religious Society, within their respective limits, now presented the subjoined Report, which was read and deliberately considered, and fully united with by the Meeting, without a dissenting voice; and the conclusions therein contained, are adopted and declared to be the sense, judgment and decision of this Meeting, in those several particulars.

(Report.)

"We your Committee, appointed to take into consideration the information contained in the accounts from Salem, Sandwich and Dover Quarterly Meetings, respecting the setting up and holding of Separate Meetings under the name, and claiming the character of each of said Quarterly Meetings respectively, and who have acknowledged no subordination to this Meeting, and also of the setting up and holding of Meetings under the names and claiming the character of several of the Monthly Meetings belonging to said Quarterly Meetings, but which have acknowledged no subordination to said Quarterly Meetings — and also the information contained in the account from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of the setting up and holding of Meetings under the name and claiming the character of several of the Monthly Meetings belonging to said Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, but which have acknowledged no subordination to that Quarterly Meeting, have attended to our appointment, and now report to the Yearly Meeting, That we notified the Representatives now in attendance at this Meeting from each of said Quarterly Meetings, of the objects of our

appointment

appointment, and of the time and place of our meeting thereon, who took notice and attended accordingly. We also requested two of our number viz: Stephen Jones Junr and Alton Pope to read a notice in writing, of the objects of our appointment, and of the time and place of our meeting thereon, and of our willingness to hear them or any parties interested who wished to be heard respecting the matters committed to us, to George F. Reed of Salem, who we were informed acted as Clerk of a Meeting claiming to be Salem Quarterly Meeting, also to Peleg Mitchel of Nantucket, who we were informed acted as Clerk of a Meeting claiming to be Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, - And to Pelatiah Hussey of North Berwick, who we were informed acted as Clerk of a Meeting claiming to be Dover Quarterly Meeting. We also requested the same Friends, (at the request of the Representatives in attendance on this Meeting from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting) to read said notice to Hezekiah Barnard, Prince Gardner and James Austin, who acknowledged themselves overseers of a Meeting claiming to be Nantucket Monthly Meeting of Friends, but who have not acknowledged subordination to this Yearly Meeting: We also requested the same friends (at the request of the Representatives in attendance on this Meeting from Dover Quarterly Meeting) to read said notice to William Hill and Joseph Meader who acknowledged themselves to be Overseers of a Meeting claiming to be Berwick Monthly Meeting of Friends, who have not acknowledged subordination to this Yearly Meeting: and we also requested said Friends to read said notice to such others as they might think best - Who have reported to us that they have given notice accordingly to Hezekiah Barnard, Prince Gardner, James Austin, Wm Hill, Joseph Meader, Peleg Mitchel, Pelatiah Hussey and George F. Reed, and also to Thomas B. Gould and many others, whom we believe are in attendance at this time, of a meeting of Separatists claiming to be New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, which they are holding in Clark Street in Newport: We accordingly met at Friends' Meeting House, in Newport, at 8 Oclock A. M. on the 17th Instant, being the time and place assigned, and the Representatives in attendance at this Meeting from Salem Quarterly Meeting named in the account received from that Meeting, informed us, and produced satisfactory evidence that at Salem Quarterly Meeting, held at Lynn in the 8th Month last a company of from fifteen to eighteen individuals, male and female attended said Meeting from some other parts of the Yearly Meeting, most, or all of whom, it was believed stood in the capacity of a Committee from a body of Seceders, who call themselves New England Yearly Meeting. Among this company was John Wilbur, who had been disowned from our Society. Several others of their number had also, either been disowned, or were under dealing by the Monthly Meetings to which they severally belonged; and when the meeting for business was opened, these individuals continued to keep their seats contrary to the good order and discipline of our Society. In the men's meeting, the opening minute being read, Friends concluded they could not

proceed with their business, while those were present, who were not members of our Society, and they were very tenderly, yet unavailingly requested to withdraw. They stated they were a committee from New England Yearly Meeting, and one of their company laid upon the Clerk's table a paper, which they requested should be read, saying it was a minute of their appointment; but the Meeting concluded it could not, in accordance with discipline, proceed with its business while individuals were present who had been disowned & were under dealing; and after waiting about five hours, for them to withdraw; it was concluded to adjourn, to meet again the next morning at the 9th hour.

During the time the Meeting was thus held in suspense, charges were made by the individuals who had thus intruded upon us, against our Yearly Meeting of a departure from our principles and the provisions of our Discipline, and of adopting views and sentiments at variance with the ancient doctrines of our Society; all of which charges Friends believed to be destitute of foundation.

The Clerk having informed that a minute of adjournment was prepared, George F. Reed a member of Salem Monthly Meeting, commenced reading a paper which stated that the Clerk of the Quarterly Meeting having identified himself with the Separatists, and thereby disqualified himself from acting in that capacity, he was himself appointed Clerk for one year.

While he was reading his paper the Clerk was requested to read the minute of adjournment, which being done Friends withdrew from the house, leaving with the Company who had thus intruded upon the Meeting, about fifteen or sixteen of the members of said Quarterly Meeting, part males and part females, and a very few young Friends, who (as Friends believe) stopped from curiosity. In the Women's meeting, proceedings substantially the same as in the mens took place; excepting that no person pretended to act as Clerk for the separate meeting, and no accusations of unsoundness are recollected to have been definitely made.

The small number of the members of said Quarterly Meeting, who remained in the house, aided and encouraged by John Wilbur and those with him, formed what they denominate Salem Quarterly Meeting - held, as it is apprehended in unity with and subordination to, the Company of Separatists, who call themselves New England Yearly Meeting - and after sitting a short time, they adjourned to meet again the next day in another house.

The day following Friends met in their Meeting House, at the time to which they had adjourned, and accomplished the business of the Quarterly Meeting in much harmony, and without any further interruption; the Company who had the day before claimed to be a committee from New England Yearly Meeting not being present, neither did they make any communication to the Meeting whatever. The meeting thus set up under the name of Salem Quarterly Meeting, with George F. Reed acting as its Clerk, has since been held at the times appointed for holding

Salem Quarterly Meetings, but not in the places so appointed; excepting that in the first month last, it was held in Salem, but at a private dwelling house).

The Representatives in attendance at this Yearly Meeting from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting named in the account received from that Meeting, informed us, and satisfactorily proved to us, that at that Quarterly Meeting, held at Nantucket, in the Seventh Month last, John Wilbur together with several other persons not members of our Religious Society, persisting in remaining with said Meeting, after having been requested to withdraw, it was concluded to adjourn the Meeting - But before this took place, at the opening of the Meeting, accounts were presented from all their Monthly Meetings except Nantucket, which being called for Hezekiah Barnard, one of the Representatives from that Meeting, stated that he had them in his possession but that they had concluded to withhold them, adding that "a Separation must and would take place"; and they were accordingly withheld - A paper was then handed to the Clerk's table by one of those persons who had intruded themselves upon us, purporting to be a Minute of New England Yearly Meeting signed by Thomas B. Gould as Clerk with a request that it might be read, which by direction of the Meeting was declined; whereupon they, together with several of our own members, after declaring the Clerks disqualified upon the ground, as they avowed, that they had identified themselves with those who had separated from Society, proceeded to appoint Peleg Mitchell for Clerk, who had previously joined with the Seceders from our Yearly Meeting on Rhode Island in effecting the Separation here in the Sixth Month last. In this proceeding the Representatives from none of the Monthly Meetings except Nantucket were consulted, while they, together with one of the Nantucket representatives opposed the measure when brought before the Meeting. Thus, notwithstanding the general disapprobation expressed by the body of the Meeting they effected their organization as a Separate Meeting assuming the title of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, which they have since continued to retain, and hold meetings under that title.

The Representatives in attendance at this Meeting from Dover Quarterly Meeting named in the account received from that Meeting, satisfactorily proved to us that at Dover Quarterly Meeting held at Berwick 28th. of 8th. Month last, after the opening minute was read, and accounts from Dover and Sandwich Monthly Meetings minuted, and the names of the Representatives from those Monthly Meetings called and answered to, the Meeting was informed that there were laid upon the table two accounts purporting to come from Berwick Monthly Meeting, both of which were by direction of the Meeting noticed upon the minutes, and the Representatives named in each were called

and answered to their names. The Meeting was then informed that there were several persons present, who were either disowned or under dealing in the Monthly Meetings of which they were, or had been members: among them was John Wilbur, whose disownment had been confirmed by the Yearly Meeting, and he had not been restored in any way known to the discipline or according with the usages of the Society of Friends. These persons were tenderly requested to withdraw, but they persisted in remaining in the Meeting:- Whereupon the Quarterly Meeting concluded they could not proceed with their business consistently with discipline while those were present who had been disowned, or were under dealing, and after waiting for a considerable time, for the Meeting to become select, without success, Friends concluded to adjourn to the next morning the 29th. at the 10th hour -

While the Quarterly Meeting was thus held in suspense, a member of the Meeting, who had joined in setting up and holding a separate Meeting under the name of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England in the Sixth Month last year, proposed that Pelatiah Hussey, who had identified himself previously with the Separatists, and united in a separation in Berwick Monthly Meeting, should be appointed Clerk - a few united with it, who had also previously united in a separation, while many Friends objected; and notwithstanding the conclusion of the Meeting that no business could be entered upon under the circumstances, Pelatiah Hussey read a paper stating that he was appointed Clerk for one year, and when Friends withdrew from the house upon the adjournment of the Meeting, he remained, with a few others, members of that Quarterly Meeting, accompanied and encouraged by John Wilbur and the others who had intruded upon the Quarterly Meeting - and they then held what they denominate Dover Quarterly Meeting, said Pelatiah Hussey acting as its Clerk; which Meeting they continue to hold under that name and claiming that character.- On the 29th. Friends of the Quarterly Meeting assembled according to their adjournment from the 28th. and proceeded to the transaction of their business, which was satisfactorily accomplished, none of those who had interrupted the Quarterly Meeting the previous day being present.

WE have deliberated upon the circumstances thus brought to our view, and we are fully united in the opinion, and it is our sense and judgment that those persons who united in setting up and holding a Meeting at Lynn in the 8th Month last under the name of Salem Quarterly Meeting, with George F. Read acting as their Clerk did so in a disorderly manner, and out of the order and against the discipline and usages of our religious Society, and by so doing manifested themselves to be Separatists therefrom, and their Meeting is not and cannot be entitled to be considered or acknowledged a Quarterly Meeting of the Society of Friends -

WE are also fully united in the opinion, and it is our sense and judgment that those persons who united in setting up and

holding a Meeting at Nantucket in the Seventh Month last under the name of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, with Peleg Mitchell acting as their Clerk, did so in a disorderly manner, and out of the order and against the discipline and usages of our religious Society, and by so doing manifested themselves to be Separatists therefrom, and their Meeting is not, and cannot be entitled to be considered or acknowledged a Quarterly Meeting of the Society of Friends. We are also fully united in the opinion, and it is our sense and judgment that those persons who united in setting up and holding a Meeting at Berwick in the 8th Month last, under the name of Dover Quarterly Meeting with Pelatiah Hussey acting as their Clerk, did so in a disorderly manner, and out of the order and against the discipline and usages of our religious Society, and by so doing manifested themselves to be Separatists therefrom, and their Meeting is not and cannot be entitled to be considered or acknowledged a Quarterly Meeting of the Society of Friends.

It is further our sense and judgment, that the several Quarterly Meetings of Salem, Sandwick and Dover from which accounts have been received and Representatives acknowledged and in attendance at this Yearly Meeting, are the true and legitimate Quarterly Meetings of the Society of Friends, in unity with and subordinate to this Yearly Meeting, within their respective limits. By said accounts it appears that Samuel Boyce is the Clerk of Salem, William C Jabez of Sandwick, and Stephen Reed of Dover Quarterly Meetings.--

Having thus gone through with the duties of our appointment so far as the same related to the holding of separate Quarterly Meetings - we turned our attention to the further subject committed to us of examining the circumstances which have led to the holding of Meetings claiming to be Monthly Meetings, within the limits of several of the Quarterly Meetings - And upon this subject we are informed by the accounts and are satisfied by evidence of the Representatives in attendance at this Yearly Meeting from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting and others that within the limits of their several Monthly Meetings, Meetings have been set up and continue to be holden (except Greenwich) under the name, and claiming the character of each of their Monthly Meetings respectively

We are also informed by the Representatives in attendance at this Yearly Meeting from Salem Quarterly Meeting, that a separate Meeting under the name and claiming the character of Salem Monthly Meeting, has been set up, and is continued to be holden, within the limits of that Monthly Meeting.

We are also informed by the accounts and Representatives in attendance at this Yearly Meeting, from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, that separate Meetings, acknowledging no subordination to said Quarterly Meeting, or our Yearly Meeting have been set up and organized within the limits of Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford and

Nantucket Monthly Meetings.

We are also informed by the accounts and Representatives in attendance at this Yearly Meeting from Dover Quarterly Meeting, that a separate Meeting under the name and claiming the character of Berwick Monthly Meeting, has been set up, and is continued to be holden within the limits of that Monthly Meeting

These several Separate Meetings claiming to be Monthly Meetings, but acknowledging no subordination to the rightful Quarterly Meetings, within whose limits they have been set up, we are united in the opinion, and it is our sense and judgment are Meetings of Separatists from our Religious Society, and cannot be considered or acknowledged as Monthly Meetings of the Society of Friends: And the Monthly Meetings in unity with and subordination to our several Quarterly Meetings, as now acknowledged by the Yearly Meeting, and none others, are the regular and properly constituted Monthly Meetings of the Society, within the limits of said Quarterly Meetings respectively

We have now considered the several matters to us committed, and should here close this report, but that it has appeared in the course of our examination that in the Monthly Meetings of Nantucket and Berwick, when the separations took place, those who had been under appointment as Clerks of those Monthly Meetings, left them with the Separatists, and acted as Clerks of the separate Meetings. It has seemed most consistent with the full discharge of our duty to ascertain if the Clerks in each of said Monthly Meetings in the place of those who seceded from said Meetings, were duly appointed, according to the order, and usages of our Society - We have accordingly attended thereto, and are satisfied and united in giving our judgment that William Mitchell is the regular and properly appointed Clerk of Nantucket Monthly Meeting, and the Monthly Meeting appointing him Clerk is the regular Monthly Meeting of Nantucket in unity with Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, and this Yearly Meeting. We are also satisfied and united in judgment, that Albert C Huffman is the regular and properly appointed Clerk, of Berwick Monthly Meeting, and the Monthly Meeting appointing him Clerk is the regular Monthly Meeting of Berwick, in unity with Dover Quarterly Meeting, and this Yearly Meeting -

All which we submit to the Yearly Meeting."

Newport, 6th. Month, 17th. 1846"

Thomas Jones	Rowland Rathbun	Asa Jones	Elijah Pope
Nathan Pope	Arnold Aldrich 2d	Stephen Jones Jr.	Arnold Gifford
John W. Allinot	Allen Wing	David Robinson	John Osborne. "
David Allen	Thomas Shower	Elisha Jones	
Joseph Cook	James N. Ivy	Alton Pope	
Samuel Jones	Richard Bailey	Clement Rackliff	
Caleb Jones	Edward Foster	Joseph Taylor	
Lewis A. Estes	Cornelius Douglas	David Douglas	

Copys of Epistles to our Brethren of Ireland, Philadelphia and Baltimore were presented by the Committee on Correspondence, and being approved the Clerk is directed to sign them on our behalf.

Adjourned to the 4th hour tomorrow afternoon.

Fifth day, the 18th. Friends again met according to adjournment

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Boarding School Committee presented to this Meeting the following Report, which was fully considered and united with; and the propositions therein contained were adopted, and the same Friends who presented the Report are requested to produce to our next sitting the names of suitable Friends to constitute the two Committees proposed to be appointed by this Meeting.

"To the Yearly Meeting/-

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the Report of the School Committee, and who were requested to make any suggestions that they might deem important in relation to the welfare of the School, and promotion of the best interests of the Institution, Report

That they have given to the subject their careful deliberation, and are united in making the following propositions to the Yearly Meeting; Viz:

In order to effect a more direct responsibility on the part of those appointed by the Yearly Meeting to superintend the School, and to induce greater efficiency of action in the direction and management of its affairs, we would propose that a Small Committee of twelve of each sex should be appointed by the Yearly Meeting, to whom should be committed the care and superintendence of the Institution; Six of whom (three of each sex) should be released from the charge, and six others substituted annually. These Six should be eligible to reappointment after one year, and the others to continue to be released in rotation, from year to year

It should be understood that this Committee should give their personal attention closely to the School, and should meet there Monthly and appoint of their number, such as they should deem proper to have the more immediate charge thereof, during the recess of their meetings. They should visit the Schools to know for themselves their true state by attending them during School hours, and by witnessing, advising, and directing, in relation to the process of instruction; and they should, as Judge of the standing and progress of the children, and enter into free intercourse with them, and their teachers.

They should advise with and direct the Superintendents respecting the expenditures and domestic management of the family, and endeavour to feel and exercise an individual interest in the various concerns of the Institution.

WE would also propose that the Yearly Meeting should appoint a general Committee on the subject of education to be composed of Friends from the several Quarterly Meetings, to promote the guarded

education of our children, both in the Boarding School, and in Monthly Meeting, Preparative Meeting and Family Schools, in accordance with the concern long felt by the Yearly Meeting - This Committee on education, should meet and consult with the School Committee at the time of our Yearly Meeting at Newport, and also at the School, at the time of the examination in the 10th Month, at the close of the Summer term. Both Committees should freely communicate with each other, and thereby endeavour to promote the guarded religious education of the Youth of our Society - The whole to be subject to the control and direction of the Yearly Meeting annually.

Newport, 6th Mo: 18th 1846.

On behalf of the Committee,

Rowland Greene

Sophronia Page. "

The Repot of the Boarding School Committee for the past year being approved, was directed to be recorded and transmitted by the Clerk to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, together with the Report of the Committee of this meeting, adopted at this time, with such explanatory minutes as may be required.

"To the Yearly Meeting

The Boarding School Committee repot, that they have endeavoured the past year to discharge the duties entrusted to them by the Yearly Meeting in superintending the concerns of the Institution.

Religious meetings have been regularly held in the house except during the vacations. The average number of Scholars the past year has been 84. The Schools have been examined at the close of each term by a Committee appointed for the purpose, from whose reports it appears that the evidence afforded of diligence and proficiency on the part of the pupils, and ability and faithfulness on that of the teachers, were satisfactory and encouraging. Instruction continues to be given in the Languages when desired on the same conditions as heretofore, viz: 5 dollars a term additional charge.

The Treasurer's and Superintendents' accounts have been examined and settled; by which it appears that the income of the School for the last year has been 9,534 $\frac{23}{100}$ dollars, and the expenditures 11,131 $\frac{39}{100}$ dollars: leaving a balance in the Treasury of 2,886 $\frac{74}{100}$ dollars.

We would propose that the terms for board and Tuition be the same as last year, viz: 30 dollars a term for members of this Yearly Meeting, 45 dollars for those who are not members, nor in both of whose parents are members, and 50 dollars for members of other Yearly Meetings, books and stationary being furnished as at present. We would also propose that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one Scholar a term free of expense as last year, and that they occupy this privilege either in the Winter term, or in the Summer term next succeeding; and the Monthly Meetings are desired, should they deem it best not to send a Scholar till the Summer term, to inform the acting Committee at its meeting in the 10th Month.

Our friends Olney and Lydia Thompson are engaged as Superintendents, and Charles Atherton, Samuel Austin and Edward Hoag as Teachers in the Boys School, and Mary Atherton and Gertrude Whittier in the Girls'. David C. Chace was employed during the Winter term as an assistant in the Boys department and Elizabeth Rotch during the year in the Girls'. William Nicholson was also employed as a teacher in the Boys School during the summer term of the past year. Since our last report the Committee have made several valuable additions to the Philosophical Apparatus belonging to the Institution.

Although the number of Scholars has been somewhat larger during the past than the preceding year, yet the Committee regret that no more of the children of Friends enjoy the advantages which the Institution affords for a thorough school education, free in good measure from the corrupting influences of the world. The improved condition of schools both public and private within the limits of New England, may seem to have diminished the necessity of placing our children in the Boarding School; but we believe that most of these schools will be found to exercise an influence adverse to the simplicity and purity of our Christian profession; and many of them, to expose the susceptible minds of our youth to those corrupting associations from which it has ever been the concern of Friends carefully to guard them. The religious concern for the guarded education of our children which the principal donors to the School fund uniformly manifested, we hope, will be steadily borne in mind by all those upon whom devolve the parental care and guardianship of the young: that the substantial advantages so liberally placed within their reach, may be reaped to greater extent in time to come.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of the School Committee

Jona L. Slocum, Clerk. "

Boarding School 5th Mo: 8th. 1816."

The Committee to whom the subject was refered, propose the name of Thomas Markness as Treasurer of the School Fund, which is approved, and he is appointed to that service accordingly. They also propose as a Committee of this Meeting to advise with the Treasurer as to the investment and management of the School funds, Joseph Metcalf, John D Lang, Geo. Rowland, John Osborne and Samuel Boyd Tobey which being approved they are appointed for that service - and they are requested to receive from the Executor of the Will of our late Treasurer William Jenkins, the Books, papers and securities of the School property in his possession and transfer the same to the Treasurer now appointed, receiving his receipt therefor, and lodging it with the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting - They are also requested, to execute any necessary discharges to the said Executor on our behalf, and report to this Meeting next year.

The Representatives to whom was refered the subject of the expenses of the Yearly Meeting, and the apportionment of the same

among the Quakers made the following report, Viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting -

We the Committee of the Representatives to whom was referred the subject of the Expenses of the Yearly Meeting and the apportionment of the same among the different Quarterly Meetings, having met and conferred together are united in proposing that the several Quarterly Meetings pay as follows, Viz:

Rhode Island	23 per cent,
Salem	19 per cent,
Sandwich	21 per cent,
Falmouth	6 per cent,
Smithfield	7 per cent,
Vassalborough	7 per cent,
Dover	8 per cent
and Fairfield	6 per cent of the Expenses of this Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee,

Samuel Jones. "

which is approved and established by this Meeting, for the present.

The Committee to examine and settle the Treasurer's account and for other purposes made the following report, Viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting, now sitting -

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's Accounts, Report, that they have attended to that service, and found his accounts correct, and a balance due the Treasurer of Ten hundred, Six 19/100 Dollars: and propose that Twenty five hundred dollars be raised for the service of the Meeting the present year, and the name of David Buffum for Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting -

6th Month 17th. 1846

Micajah W. Pratt

On behalf of the Committee. "

which is accepted, and the several Quarterly Meetings are requested to raise their respective proportions of the sums proposed, and pay the same to our Treasurer; and in accordance with the proposition of the Committee David Buffum is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Committee to whom that subject was referred, prepared the names of the following Friends, to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, Viz:

Rowland Greene	John Osborne	George Rowland	Joseph Tabor
John Warren	Jon.a Dennis	Nathan Pope	Jno. C Collins
Abraham Shearman Jr.	David Buffum	Samuel Boyd Tobey	Joseph Taylor
Estes Newhall	Abijah Chace	John D Lang	Beriah Collins
Matthew Thurston	Peter Peck	Moses H Beede	Olney Thompson
James N. Fry	William Reynolds	Samuel Taylor Jun.	Abraham Barker
Nicholas Congdon	Moses Hammond	Edmund Chace	Charles F. Coffin
Thomas Anthony	Joseph Metcalf	Allen Wing	Samuel Jones
Edward Wing	John Meader	Samuel Boyce	Thomas Hazard,
Benjamin Fry	Arnold Congdon	John Howland	

which are approved by this Meeting, and they are appointed to constitute

a Meeting for Sufferings to act on our behalf in the recess of this Meeting, according to the original organization of that Meeting.

The subject of a revision of our Discipline which has been heretofore committed to the Meeting for Sufferings, is again referred to their attention to act therein as way may open for in the Truth.

The Committee to cause to be printed the London General Epistle, made the following Report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee to whom was assigned the printing of the London Epistle report that they have caused three thousand copies to be printed, and they are now ready for distribution to the distant Quarterly Meetings.

Newport 6th Mo: 18th. 1846. On behalf of the Committee,

Wm C. Taber. "

and the Representatives now in attendance on this Meeting, are requested to receive the respective proportions of their several Quarterly Meetings, and convey them to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

By the accounts received from Falmouth Quarterly Meeting, the following information is contained, viz:

"To New-England Yearly Meeting of Friends to be held on Rhode Island, in the 6th. Mo: 1846:

We have received answers to the Queries from our Monthly Meetings, and the following summary has been prepared for the Yearly Meeting — Have appointed Thomas Jones, Nathan Pope, John W. Minot David Allen, Joseph Cook, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Caleb Jones and Lewis A Estes to attend said Meeting.

The Epistles and other documents received from our last Yearly Meeting, were satisfactory to this Meeting.

We have directed our Treasurer to forward to the Yearly Meeting's Treasurer, our proportion of Yearly Meeting's Stock.

From the Minutes of Falmouth Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Westbrook 6th Month 4th, 1846.

Samuel Jones, Clerk?

Answer 1st All our Meetings are attended, and generally by the most, though a neglect is apparent in some, which is mostly in the middle of the week. The hour is carefully observed except by a few. Some appearances of sleeping in some at times — Clear of other unbecoming behaviour as far as appears. Some care has been taken in the above deficiences

Answer 2d Love and Unity are in a good measure maintained, though not so fully by some, as would be desirable. Detraction is mostly guarded against: Care is taken to end differences when they appear.

Answer 3d Care is taken to bring up those under our direction in plainness; to restrain them from reading pernicious Books, and from corrupt conversation. Friends are mostly exemplary herein

All enclosed in this bracket, ought not to have been entered.

themselves. The Holy Scriptures we believe are frequently read in our families.

Answer 4th. Careful in the several parts of this Query as far as we know.

Answer 5th. The circumstances of the poor, and such as appear likely to need assistance are inspected, and their necessities relieved: Their children partake of learning, and they, and other Friend's children, are placed among Friends as far as appears.

Answer 6th. Parents and heads of families appear to be careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline. A few instances of deviation in the young and unmarried where some care has been taken.

Answer 7th. Clear in the several parts of this Query.

Answer 8th. Friends appear to be in a good degree careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts; and generally careful to be punctual to their promises, and just in the payment of their debts, and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances

Answer 9th. Marriages all recorded. Births and deaths nearly so. No Friend removed, or come amongst us without a certificate.

Answer 10th. In a good degree careful to deal with offenders as queried after — though we are sensible of a failing short, in some instances, in timely dealing. Judgment we think is placed according to discipline.

(At our Quarterly Meeting in the 2d Month last, it was concluded to allow the two Preparatives of Limington and Parsonsfield (formerly branches of Windham Monthly Meeting) to hold a Monthly Meeting, by the name of Limington Monthly Meeting; which was accordingly opened in the Third Month last, and is held alternately at Limington and Parsonsfield)

All enclosed in this bracket, ought not to have been entered.

And the Representatives from that Meeting propose the name of Wingate Frost of Limington as Correspondent of Limington Monthly Meeting. The Clerk is directed to give this information in the Epistles to the several Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

Essays of Epistles to our brethren of London, New York, North Carolina and Indiana were presented at this time by the committee on correspondence; which were read and approved and directed to be signed by the Clerk on our behalf.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Sixth day morning the 19th. Friends assembled according to adjournment.

The Representatives being called, they were present as at the several sittings of this Meeting.

The joint Committee of men and women Friends appointed at our last Yearly Meeting, to visit subordinate Meetings, and to render such advice and assistance as they might be enabled to do made the

1846

following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting -

The joint committee of men and women Friends appointed at our last Yearly Meeting to visit such subordinate Meetings as may appear to them to stand in need of assistance, and to afford such counsel and advice as in the meekness and wisdom of the Truth they may be able to afford, and that they should extend a special care in the assisting of Friends in sustaining our Meetings in different parts of our Yearly Meeting according to our present organization -

Report, that we have paid attention to the objects of our appointment, having during the past season visited Six of the Quarterly Meetings as well as a number of the Monthly Meetings composing them. Several of our number were present at the Quarterly Meetings of Sandwich, Salem and Dover held in the seventh and eighth month last.

From each of said Quarterly Meetings a few of their members seceded, and set up separate Meetings under their names respectively, in which disorderly work they were aided and encouraged by John Wilbur and several others of those, who have departed from us and united with him - Friends of those Meetings respectively having forwarded to this Meeting with their accounts, statements of what took place at their meetings when the secessions were effected, We can add our testimony to theirs, believing that their Statements are substantially true and correct.

John Wilbur and several of his followers, also visited Falmouth Fairfield and Vassalborough Quarterly Meetings, and attempted to interrupt the proceedings of each of those Meetings - But Friends were mercifully enabled to hold them free from interruption, and are preserved united bodies, and in a good degree of harmony

In conclusion, we can thankfully acknowledge that help was graciously afforded whereby we were enabled to render such assistance and to impart such counsel as circumstances seemed to require -

Newport 6th Mo: 19th 1846

Benjamin Fry } On behalf of
Elizabeth Wing } the Committee. "

which is acceptable, and the services of our Friends under their appointment have been satisfactory to this Meeting; and while much sympathy has been manifested for our dear Friends, who in their respective Meetings are yet subjected to difficulties, it has been thought safe to omit the appointment of a Committee for similar services the present Year.

The Committee to whom it was referred to produce to this Meeting the names of Suitable Friends to constitute a School Committee, proposed the following, viz:

Perez Peck	John Osborne	William A Robinson
Samuel Boyd Tobey	Joseph Metcalf	Stephen A. Chase
John Meader	Samuel Boyce	David Buffum
Samuel Taylor Jun^{r}	John D. Lang	Rowland Greene,

which being satisfactory, they are appointed a committee to act on

on behalf in union with a Committee of the Womens Meeting, in the care and superintendence of the Boarding School, agreably to a proposal adopted by this Meeting yesterday; and they are requested to render such general attention at the Institution as they may be able to do, giving such advice and direction in the various concerns, thereof as they may deem calculated to promote its interests, in accordance with the original concern of this Meeting, in establishing a School for the guarded, religious education of the Youth of our Society, and report to this Meeting next year.

The Committee now appointed are at liberty to dispense with the mid-week meeting at the Institution, on the week of holding Providence Preparative Meeting, which the Children usually attend, should they deem it best so to do.

The following Friends being proposed to constitute a Committee on Education, they are satisfactory to this Meeting and are appointed to attend to the general service of promoting the guarded education of our youth, particularly as indicated in the minute made yesterday proposing such an appointment, and they are requested to report to this Meeting next year. The Clerk is directed to make the necessary extracts from our Minutes on these subjects, and forward them, together with the names of the Committee, now appointed, to our Subordinate Meetings.

Committee on Education

Rhode Island, Moses H. Beede, Jethro F. Mitchel, Timothy C. Collins, Benjamin Greene, Jervis Howe, Thomas Gifford, Gilbert Congdon, James Dennis.

Salem, William H. Chase, Nathan Breed of Lynn, Moses Huntington Jr., Newell Ordway, Herod Chase, Joshua Page.

Sandwich, George Howland Jun., Charles W. Tucker, Newell Hoxie, Ebenezer Wing, William Mitchel, Abraham R. Wing, George Almy, George W. Francis, John Macomber, Adna Davis, Calvin Shepherd, Moses F. Rogers.

Falmouth, Abraham Winslow, Joseph Eastland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Jones of Windham, Caleb Jones, Henry H. Minot, Nathan Douglas, Samuel Jones of Brunswick.

Smithfield, Arnold Aldrich 2d, Thomas Grover, Edward Earl, Paul Wing, John E. Frye, David Babcock.

Tuscarawas, Moses Tabor, Thomas B. Nichols, Eli Jones, Eli Jones, Joseph Tabor, Asa Jones.

Dover, Benjamin Frye, Stephen Beede, Walter Sawyer, Benjamin H. Jones, Benajah Buffum, Peter M. Neal.

Fairfield. - - Joseph Taylor, George Richardson, Aidon Jamesson, Jacob Pope, Daniel K Bailey, David Douglass.

The Committee to whom it was referred, propose the name of John Meader to supply the place of our friend William Jenkins deceased, as a Corespondent of this Meeting, which is satisfactory to us, and he is appointed accordingly

The Clerk is directed to sign on our behalf the following minutes for Friends now in attendance of this Meeting -

One esteemed friend Zebulon Weaver attended this Meeting. His company and religious service have been acceptable to us.

Our beloved friend Bersheba Hevendeen attended this Meeting, with the within certificates. Her company and Gospel labours have been acceptable to us at this Yearly Meeting.

Our esteemed friend Gideon Hevendeen, companion to his wife Bersheba Hevendeen, attended this Meeting. His company and solid department have been acceptable and satisfactory to us.

The Essay of an Epistle to our Friends of Ohio Yearly Meeting was presented and read at this time which being satisfactory, the Clerk is directed to sign it on our behalf.

The following Epistle to subordinate Meetings, embracing some of the exercises and concern of this Meeting, was directed to be signed by the Clerk on our behalf and forwarded to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

"To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

Being again favoured to meet in this our annual assembly, and to partake sweetly of the sustaining bread of life through the unmerited mercy of our Heavenly Father who in condescending love has extended his Wing of Goodness over us, you, dear absent friends have been brought very feelingly before us, and we have felt concerned to salute you in the fellowship of the unchanging Truth, and to endeavour to convey to you a little of the exercises of this Meeting, and of the comforts of which we have been at this time permitted to be partakers. We have been made renewedly to feel, and we crave that it may be abidingly impressed upon our hearts, that all our sure mercies come from God - that He alone can direct us aright, and that it is only as we are engaged to look unto Him, continuing steadfastly in watchfulness unto prayer, that we can witness preservation. Many are the evils that abound in the world - multiplied are the snares and temptations that surround us - and very fervent are our desires that abiding in lowliness of mind we may sit as at the feet of the blessed Saviour, waiting to hear the gracious words that proceed out of his mouth.

In the solemn and important engagement of investigating the state of Society as presented to us at this time, we have been, we trust, exercised before the Lord and have witnessed his Spirit to be near us, under the influence of which his servants have been qualified to impart pertinent counsel and exhortation which we desire may be productive of good.

Under this engagement, Parents were earnestly entreated to be faithful in the duty of attending all our religious meetings & offer unto our Heavenly Father the reasonable service of worship and of praise, under a sense of our dependence upon Him; and they were impressively exhorted to be very careful to take their tender offspring with them - that as it pleaseth the Lord often to visit the minds of Children in very early life, a lasting blessing might be received by them from this religious care of their parents. We were tenderly and impressively warned to guard against pernicious reading, in the various forms in which it abounds at the present day, - not only of that reading which is of a light and frivolous character of a general nature, but also of that, to which, of later time, we have been peculiarly exposed, and which is calculated to lessen our attachment to the Truth, and to prejudice our minds in relation to those who feel bound under much suffering faithfully to support it, and the precious testimonies and rules of our religious Society. A living concern was felt that Friends might promote in their families the diligent reading of the Holy Scriptures with hearts turned unto Him who in the riches of his mercy was pleased to inspire his Servants of old to write them, and who has preserved them for our instruction in righteousness unto the present day; and who condescends to open and apply their precious contents to the humble seeking mind. We were tenderly cited to our individual experience when in the day of our espousals we were visited by the Spirit of the Lord, and in tenderness before Him we entered into holy covenant to serve Him, and were earnestly entreated to yield unreservedly to the requirements of Truth, that He who has begun a good work in our hearts may carry it on until the day of Jesus Christ. The young were affectionately encouraged to look confidingly unto the Lord for preservation and for strength, that in the end they may wear a crown of life.

And dear young friends wherever situated, under the feelings of constraining love, you are now brought very near to us, and we are drawn fervently to exhort you to beware of the whisperings of our subtle foe who would lead you to believe it may be allowable for you for the present to turn aside from the safe and narrow way to which in after time you can readily return, or who would insinuate that the self-denying path is too limited for you in the strength of your youth to walk in. He that thus speaks to you is a deceiver. The longer you deviate from this path, the more difficult will be your return - the harder the struggles through which you will have to pass, if happily you are ever restored to the safe enclosure. Submit now in the morning of your days, we entreat you, to the circumscribing power of Truth - an early sacrifice is acceptable unto the Lord - and you will witness, as you yield to the requirements of duty, that the yoke of Christ is easy and his burdens light - that the ways of Wisdom are pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

Finally dear friends of every age, may we be humbled under a sense of the goodness of our Heavenly Father - may we rejoice with trembling in contemplating the provisions of his mercy in Christ Jesus our Saviour.

1846. May we submit ourselves in simplicity unto the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter - the gift of the Father and the Son - and walking in the meekness of Wisdom before men, shew forth in all our lives and conversation, that we are the humble followers of a meek and crucified Saviour.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Yearly Meeting,

Samuel Boyd Tobey, Clerk
Hannah Gould, Jun^r, Clerk "

The Clerk is authorized to make any necessary extracts from our minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

A truly acceptable Epistle, from our Brethren of the Yearly Meeting of London, held last Month, was received at this stage of our meeting, and read to our satisfaction and comfort.

Having been favoured during the several sittings of this Meeting, to witness an extension of Heavenly regard, enabling us to transact the various important concerns of the Church in great unanimity, with desires that the mercies of which we have been partakers, may be thankfully remembered, we now separate in love; proposing to meet again on this Island, at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends, for New England, held on Rhode Island, from the 14th. to the 19th. inclusive of the Sixth Month 1846 - to other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London.

Dear Friends,

We have been favoured to meet together, at this time, for the transaction of the affairs of the Church, and have thankfully to acknowledge that the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel has been near to do us good, and in great mercy has made us measurably to feel the truth of the encouraging language, "They that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength"; yet we rejoice with trembling, knowing that of ourselves we can do nothing, and that it is only in the ability which He giveth, that we are at all prepared to promote the blessed cause of Truth.

Our Meeting has been largely attended, as much so, perhaps, as in any former year, and among those for whose welfare our hearts have been dipped into exercise, are many of our beloved

younger brethren present, whose solid deportment and serious countenances, have strengthened and encouraged their elder brethren. The desire has been raised and feelingly expressed in the pure spring of Gospel Ministry, in this Meeting, that these visited Young men, may more and more, through the sanctifying operation of the Holy Spirit, be baptized into Christ, that they may put on Christ, his meek and quiet spirit, his gentleness and his love. That with all lowliness of mind, they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour, witnessing redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of their sins.

"We have fervently desired for all elapes among us, that we may hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, in the blessed and adorable Saviour of men, both in his outward appearance in that prepared body to do his Father's will, in the offering of himself a sacrifice for sin, who knew no sin; in his glorious resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father, where He everliveth to make intercession for us; and in his blessed manifestations in our hearts by his Spirit, where sitting as a refiner with fire and a fuller with soap, He washeth and sanctifieth the true believer in him, and maketh his heart a fit receptacle for his holiness to dwell in; and that we may thus contend in the spirit of the Gospel, which breathes, "Peace on earth and good will to men".

The precious testimonies, which have from the first rise of our religious society, been borne by friends, and have in some measure distinguished them from other professors of the Christian name, are felt by us to be of great and increasing importance; among these, we have viewed our testimony to the peaceful nature of the Gospel of Christ, and the utter repugnance of all wars and fightings, to its precepts and its spirit, as peculiarly interesting at the present time. May Friends, both in your country and our own, be concerned faithfully to maintain this testimony before the world; that our influence being constantly and steadfastly thrown on the side of peace, we may be instrumental, in the Divine Hand, in hastening the day, when men shall "beat their swords into ploughshares, and learn War no more."

"We esteem it a great blessing that we have experienced through Divine mercy, during this Meeting a precious degree of Christian unity, wherein we have been enabled to conclude the various matters, which have come before us, in harmony and brotherly love.

"Your truly salutary and acceptable Epistle of last year, was here read in this Meeting to our comfort and encouragement, and your brotherly sympathy, as therein communicated, has been truly cordial to our best feelings. We highly esteem these tokens of brotherly regard, and have, at this time, addressed an Epistle to our brethren of each of the Yearly Meetings with whom we have heretofore corresponded, having received acceptable

Epistles

1846. epistles from each of them, with the exception of two upon this Continent.

Our concern for the welfare of the Indians, within and near our borders, and for those west of the Mississippi, is still alive; and from our Committees, charged with this interesting subject, we learn, that situation of the Penobscot Tribe, is much as last year: We are also informed that they give evidence that they value the care which Friends have extended to them and desire its continuance. And we are encouraged to persevere in our efforts on behalf of these much injured people, by the continued appointment of Committees on the subject; that respecting the Indians west of the Mississippi, in connexion with our brethren of the Yearly Meeting of New York.

We are sensible that the spirit of the Gospel is the spirit of charity and love, and that the more our minds are enlarged and imbued with its sanctifying influence, the more will our love flow towards our brethren of every clime, and of every hue; and the more shall we be concerned, in tender sympathy, to do what we can for their good. We desire that these feelings may be cherished in all our minds, and as the Truth may lead the way, we may use our endeavours that every yoke may be broken, and every heavy burthen unbound, and that the oppressed may go free.

With the salutation of love, we are your friends and brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

Correspondents. Abraham Shearman jun^{r}. New Bedford, Massachusetts
David Buffum, Newport, Rhode Island
Samuel Boyd Tobey, Providence, Rhode Island
John Meader do. do

The last named, appointed in place of our late friend, Wm. Jenkins, deceased

To Dublin.

Dear Friends,

Being again, at this season favoured to meet together in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we feel bound gratefully to acknowledge the continued kindness of the Heavenly Shepherd, in that the wing of his ancient goodness has been mercifully spread over us, under the influence whereof, we desire to salute in love our absent brethren, in the fellowship of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Your acceptable epistle of last year, together with similar ones from our friends of other Yearly Meetings, has been received, and read in this Meeting to our comfort and edification. The expressions of brotherly sympathy communicated to us in these testimonials from our brethren, have been received with thankfulness to Him, who alone can prepare his dependent children "to bear each other's burdens, and

so fulfil the law of Christ."

The trials, which have at different times been permitted to come upon the Church in its different locations, and the tender sympathy which those who have been subjected to these trials have received from their brethren, are a strong evidence of the oneness of the body, and the blessed fellowship which is in Christ the Holy Head; as saith the Apostle, "If one member suffer, all the members suffer with it."

Our Yearly Meeting has been large. The number in attendance, not less than in former years; and the various concerns that have come before us, have been transacted in harmony and love.

And we desire for ourselves, and for all our dear brethren, that in whatever we do, we may give evidence that we are preserved in the meekness and gentleness of the Lamb.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

Correspondents. The same as mentioned at the close of the Epistle to London.

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

Being again permitted to meet in this our Annual Assembly for the purpose of conferring together under the influence of that Wisdom which we humbly crave may be accorded to us for the right ordering of the concerns of the Church, and mutual edification of the body together in love, - our distant brethren have been brought near to us, with earnest desires for the prosperity of the Truth with them, as well as within our own borders. And under the prevalence of these feelings, we have been brought seriously to reflect upon what may be our duty towards Friends from whom we have received, at the present time, no testimonial of brotherly regard; and the result has been, that we have felt a disposition and concern to maintain a friendly and Christian intercourse, which, at a very early day, was commenced between our venerated predecessors, to whom, on either part, we apprehend, the language of the Prophet, may, in measure, have been applicable, as to the people, to whom it was, in his day, more immediately addressed - "Thus saith the Lord, I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown." The objects of which intercourse were thus particularly defined, in a minute of this Meeting, of the year 1699, in which it is stated, that the Friends and brethren of Pennsylvania, have from their Yearly Meeting proposed to this Meeting, by our Friends Samuel Jennings and Thomas Pemberton, who are now here with us, to have a correspondence with each other, either

1846. by Epistle, or by visit of some friends, if it shall please the Lord to put it into their hearts so to do, that so they may hear of the affairs of Truth, and how Truth prospers, and for the mutual comfort and strength of each other," which, it appears from the same minute, was consented to "with great freedom."

After thus introducing this, to us, very interesting subject, we feel no disposition to weary you by entering into any argumentative discussion of it; but to leave it to your deliberate consideration - earnestly requesting you to weigh it in all its various bearings, assuring you, in brotherly sincerity, that it would afford us satisfaction to reciprocate with you, a salutation of love - "that so we may hear of the affairs of Truth, and how Truth prospers with you, and for the mutual comfort and strength of each other," - if it might happily be so blessed, as to produce this result, as in days that are past.

Fervently desiring, that the Lord may be graciously pleased to heal the wounds of his Church, and to grant that under the cementing and baptising influence of Divine love, we may become each other's joy and rejoicing in the Lord,

We remain, your friends,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

To New York.

Dear Friends, It is, we trust, with feelings of humble gratitude to our Father in Heaven, that we are led to address you, at this time. Our Meeting this year has been as large as usual. The business has been conducted with much harmony and brotherly love. The aged, the middle aged, and the youth, who have come up to this, our Annual Assembly, have throughout the various sittings, manifested a disposition approaching to that wherein each can esteem other better than himself. While we have had to mourn over the sorrowful state of things in some parts of our Yearly Meeting, as well as in other places, where the Lord, in former days, was pleased to raise up a people to shew forth his praise, but where, unhappily, the enemy, we fear, has been too successful in gaining admission among them, and the precious Truth has been evil spoken of, and the faithful have had to sit clothed with a garment of heaviness, yet, in the midst of all this, the Lord is still mindful of his Church and people, reaching forth a hand of help to the humble careful traveller, affording him, at times, the comfortable evidence, that his labours in the Lord are not in vain; giving him to see with the eye of Faith, that there still remains to be a strong tower into which the righteous may flee and find safety.

We have renewedly felt, at

this time, that the cause was not ours, but the Lord's, and as we are concerned to lie low before him, he will, we humbly trust, make way for the advancement of his precious Truth in the earth.

It appears by the answers to the Queries, that all our Meetings have been sustained, notwithstanding there has been a secession, since our last Yearly Meeting, to a limited extent, in three of the Quarters. There are four Quarterly Meetings, in which no secession has taken place, and by accounts received, it appears that there is little or no disaffection in any one of them. While it is painful to dwell upon the causes which have produced this secession, let us all take heed that we be not shaken in our minds; neither let us trust in our own sufficiency, but in Him, from whom alone cometh strength.

Your truly acceptable epistle of the fifth month last, has been read in this Meeting to our comfort and edification, and strong have been our desires that brotherly love may continue, and that that precious unity and fellowship which has so long and so happily subsisted between us, may be mercifully continued.

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified"- "and the Lord direct our hearts into the love of God, and the patient waiting for Christ".

With the salutation of love, we remain your friends and brethren,

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Clerk

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

In a measure of that love, we humbly trust, which many waters cannot quench nor floods drown, we tenderly salute you; desiring that "grace may be to you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Your acceptable epistle of 10th Month last was received and read in this Meeting to our comfort and edification, accompanied by a minute in relation to the epistle sent you by those who have seceded from us. The expression of your lively sympathy on account of the various trials thro' which we have had to pass, and the language of encouragement held out in your Epistle, were truly acceptable to us, tending to stir up in our minds, feelings of humble gratitude to our Heavenly Father, for this renewed evidence that he has not forsaken us. We view it also as a fresh evidence of the value of our epistolary correspondence, confirming to our minds the truth of the Apostolic declaration, 'That whether one member suffers, all the members suffer with it, or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it."

We have thankfully to acknowledge, that it has pleased the

1846. Great Author of all our sure mercies to be near to us in this our annual assembly, contriting our minds under a sense of his unmerited goodness, and of our unworthiness of the least of his favours. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and thy truth's sake."

The state of society within our bodies, as developed in the answers to the Queries, was cause of much exercise to concerned brethren, on account of various deficiencies which still exist among us. Much pertinent counsel was given with respect to the attendance of all our religious meetings, particularly those held near the middle of the week. Were our minds imbued with the love of God, we should feel concerned, not only that we ourselves, but also that our children, should be in the habitual performance of this incumbent duty.

A solid concern and travail of spirit was felt that Zion should arise and shake herself from the dust of the earth, and that those things which continue to let, may be removed out of the way. The duty of parents in the training of their children, the frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures in their families, the pernicious influence of much of the reading that is thrown in the way of our youth, as well as of those publications, in a particular manner, which tend to sow disaffection in the bosom of our religious society, were feelingly presented to the view of Friends. Much concern was also felt on behalf of the beloved youth, that they may submit to the yoke of Christ, and thus became qualified to fill the places of those who have been removed from works to rewards.

Reports were presented to the Meeting by the Committees having charge of the concern of this Meeting in relation to the Penobscot & Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians, and also by that having charge of those west of the Mississippi, and although way has not seemed to open for much action during the past year, the Committees were encouraged to visit and advise with the tribes within our limits as opportunities may offer, and to embrace every occasion to promote the welfare of this deeply injured class of our fellow-creatures, wherever situated. The condition of the Penobscot tribe appears to be gradually, tho' slowly improving.

Finally, brethren, farewell! Whatever trials may await our beloved society, may we all be preserved in the meekness and gentleness of Wisdom, as becomes the followers of Christ.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

To North Carolina

Dear Friends, Your acceptable Epistle of the 11th Month last was received and read at this time, together with epistolary communications from all the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, except two. The contents of these testimonials of brotherly regard and sympathy, have, after the trials it has been our lot to pass through, been very acceptable and encouraging, affording an evidence, that however remotely situated from each other, we are still one people, that "one is our Master even Christ, and all we are brethren". And, in the fresh springs of pure love towards our brethren of other Yearly Meetings, we have issued Epistles to each of them as heretofore.

Precious indeed is that true Christian fellowship, wherein we are made willing in the love of the Gospel to become each others' companions in tribulation patiently endeavouring to fill up that which is left behind of the afflictions of Christ, for his body's sake, which is the Church.

Our worthy predecessors in the Truth were favoured to partake largely of this true Christian fellowship. Being, by the revelation of Christ in their hearts, given to see the emptiness of forms and ceremonies in the worship of God, they became united in bearing testimony to the Spirituality of the Gospel Dispensation. Often were they baptized together, and altho' trials and sufferings were permitted to await them, yet such was their love for their Holy Head, that, at times and seasons they could rejoice in their tribulations, and with thankfulness acknowledge, that 'unto them it was given not only to believe in Christ, but also to suffer for his sake'. And dear friends, we desire that it may be our fervent engagement of spirit, to build on the same foundation upon which they built, Christ Jesus, the Rock of Ages - He who died for us that we might live, and that we may henceforth not live unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us and rose again - He who now appeareth unto us by his Spirit, and who will, as we yield obedience to the manifestations thereof in our hearts, save us from our sins. Tho, altho' in adorable mercy our blessed Saviour shed his blood for us upon the Cross, and thus opened the way for our redemption, yet we crave that we ever keep in view, that unless we yield obedience to the gift of grace vouchsafed to us, through the sacrifice thus made, we have no ground for hope; "Christ being the author of eternal salvation to those who believe and obey him".

These precious doctrines so firmly upheld by our predecessors in the Truth, continue to be unabatingly dear to us; and beloved friends as we are engaged to live in accordance therewith, we believe, that all those peculiar testimonies, which we as a people are required to bear before the World, will become in our view of increasing value, and we shall be found, giving evidence, by our lives and conversation, that we are the followers of a crucified Saviour.

Notwithstanding the secession which has taken place among us, our Meeting, has, we believe, been as large as in any previous

1846. year; and we have been enabled to transact the important concerns that have come before us, in much harmony, and have been given to realize that there is strength in unity of exercise and a joint engagement of spirit.

To Him be all the praise who alone can keep us from falling.

With the salutation of love, we remain your friends -

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

To Ohio.

Dear Friends.

It is, we believe, in the love of the Gospel, that we are concerned again to address you, and to express our desire, that grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ may prosper and abound, both with you and with us - that those memorable words of our blessed Savior may ever be had in remembrance, "Abide in me, and I in you; as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me".

Our Meeting, at this time, has been large: Notwithstanding the secession that has taken place within our borders, the number in attendance has been as great as in any previous year. Epistles were received and read from our dear brethren of the Yearly Meetings of London and Ireland held last year, and one from each of the Yearly Meetings on this continent, except yours and Philadelphia and the brotherly sympathy therein communicated has been to our comfort and encouragement. We have returned at this season to the origin of these epistolary communications and to the concern of our predecessors in the Truth, commencing with our ancient worthy Elder George Fox, and entertained by all those faithful friends in unity with him, the object of which was to know how the Truth prospered with their absent brethren, that all things might be kept clean and sweet in the Church of Christ. And this concern, exercised under the direction of the Spirit of Truth, is, we believe eminently calculated to strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship and love, that as members of one body of which Christ is head we may either suffer or rejoice together.

We have thankfully to acknowledge that this has been a precious solemn season, and the various concerns of the Church that have come before us, have been transacted in harmony and love. Many of our beloved youth were present, with not a few of whom it is manifest to our great comfort and encouragement that the work of Divine grace is progressing in their hearts.

Accept, dear friends, the salutation of our continued love, with the earnest desire that nothing may ever be suffered to break the bonds of Christian fellowship, which, have heretofore, bound us together.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

To Indiana.

Dear Friends, "Being again convened in this our annual Assembly, for the solemn purpose of transacting the weighty concerns of the Church, our hearts have been afresh warmed with feelings of tenderness and love for our beloved friends - and it is we trust, under a renewed evidence mercifully granted unto us, that a mutual epistolary correspondence serves to unite and bind together the members of the militant Church in the bond of Christian fellowship, whereby we may be enabled to become each other's helpers in the Lord, that we now salute you. Earnestly do we desire, not only for ourselves, but for our beloved friends, that we may dwell so low and humble before the Lord, that he may be pleased to preserve us from that spirit which seeks to "divide in Jacob and scatter in Israel.

Your acceptable Epistle, of 10th Month last, has been received & read at this time to our comfort and edification, together with Epistolary communications from all the other Yearly Meetings, except two. Your minute, relating to the communication from the Separatists in New England, was also received. We notice with much satisfaction that your concern for the people of colour within your borders, remains unabated. We desire your hands may be strengthened in this good cause to do all that may be called for, ever bearing in mind that unless the Lord keep the City, the watchman waketh but in vain. May you be encouraged to persevere in this and every act of mercy towards the oppressed of every class within your borders.

Our Meeting has been large, and whilst it becomes us to speak in all lowliness of the unmerited favours received, we feel bound to acknowledge the goodness and mercy of our Holy Head, in permitting us at this time, to enjoy his blessed presence, with the comforting assurance that he is disposed to watch over and protect all who put their trust in him alone.

Harmony and brotherly love have prevailed during the various deliberations of this Meeting; and altho' we have to acknowledge that deficiences exist, and that weakness is ours, yet we have been renewedly encouraged in the belief that a lively concern is manifest amongst us for the promotion of the cause of our Holy Redeemer, and for upholding the precious testimonies of our worthy predecessors in the Truth, in all their excellency.

Our hearts have been afresh warmed with affectionate love for the dear youth upon whom must soon devolve the weighty concerns of the Church, when the fathers and mothers who have long borne the burden and heat of the day, will be removed from works to rewards. Many of this class, we doubt not, are under the preparing hand of the Lord, and as they abide in watchfulness unto prayer, will in due time be enabled to come forth, purified from the dross the tin and reprobate silver, and become "vessels of honour in the Lords house".

With the salutations of love, we are your friends —

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Jobey Clerk

1847.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held on Rhode Island, commencing with public meetings for worship at Newport and Portsmouth on first day the 13th; and at Newport for discipline on second day morning the 14th. of sixth month, 1847.

By the records received from our several Quarterly Meetings, we are informed that they have appointed the following Friends as representatives to this Meeting, viz:

For Rhode Island — Rowland Greene, John Meader, Thomas Anthony, Edmund Chase, Moses H Reede, and David Buffum.

For Salem — William H. Chase, Newell Ordway, Ephraim Leighton, Enoch Page, Micajah C. Pratt, Stephen A. Chase, Oliver D. Rogers, and Joshua Page.

For Sandwich — George Howland, David Kelly, Samuel Gifford, John Howland, Isaac R Gifford, William Tucker, Josiah Holmes Jun^r, Barzet Beard, John Potter, Edward P. Little, and John Macomber.

For Nantucket — Thomas Jones, Nathan Douglas, Nathan Pope, Henry M. Minett, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Elisha Jones, David Winslow, John W. Minott, and Caleb Jones.

For Smithfield — Edward Earle, Thomas Grover, Paul Aldrich, Edward Foster, John E. Fry, and John Osborne.

For Vassalboro' — John D. Lang, Elisha Jones, Joseph Taber, Edmund Gates, Thomas R. Nichols, Clement Rackliff, and Stephen Jones Jun^r.

For Dover — William Hussey, Timothy Hanson, Benajah Buffum, Benjamin H. Jones and Joseph Tuttle.

For Fairfield — David Douglass, Samuel Taylor Jun^r, Noah Fare Jun^r, John Pope, and Caleb Hawkes —

whose names being called, they were all present.

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our beloved friend Benjamin Seebohm, of Great Britain, satisfactory certificates from the Monthly Meeting of Brighouse, in the County of York, in England, held at Bradford the 13th. of 3d. month, 1846; and the Quarterly Meeting of York, held at Leeds, the 25th. 26th. of 3d month 1846 Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders of London, held on the 18th. 19th. and 30th. of the 5th. month, 1846, were read, all expressive of the unity of his friends with him as a gospel minister, and in his present engagement in the service of truth in our land.

We have also the company of our beloved friend Robert Lindsey, as companion to our friend Benjamin Seebohm, who produced satisfactory testimonials from the Monthly Meeting of Brighouse, held the 18th of 9th

month, 1846; the Quarterly Meeting of York, held the 23d of the same month; and the Morning Meeting of Ministers and Elders of London, held the 12th. of 10th month, 1846, expressive of the unity of his friends with him as a gospel minister, and with his present engagement in religious service in our land.

We have also at this time the acceptable company of our beloved friend Charles Hoxland, who produced satisfactory certificates from the Monthly Meeting of Raisin, in Michigan, held the 10th of 3d month, 1847, and the Quarterly Meeting of Adrian, held the 21th of 3d month 1847, expressive of the unity of his friends with him as a minister, and with his present religious engagement.

The London printed Epistle of last year was received and read at this time, and we desire that the salutary counsel contained therein may be productive of good to the individual members of our religious Society, to whose serious attention we commend it.

We have received a truly acceptable and sympathetic Epistle from our brethren of the Yearly Meeting of London, said last year (which came to hand seasonably to be read near the close of our last Yearly Meeting); also one from our dear friends of each of the Yearly Meetings of New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, and Indiana; and we have felt strengthened and comforted in the continuance of the ancient practice of thus saluting each other in Gospel love; and we appoint our friends John Warren, Rowland Greene, John Meader, Thomas Anthony, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Lindley M. Hoag, Samuel Boyce, David Buffum, William C. Taber, John Osborne, Joseph Metcalf, Stephen A. Chase, Moses H. Beede, Joseph H. Cole, Caleb Jones, Samuel Taylor Jun., Lemuel Jones, Charles Atherton, David K. Atkin, William H. Chase, Peter Peck, William Gifford of Falmouth, Stephen Jones Jr., Joseph Davis, Chuy Thompson, Daniel Taber, Newell Hoxsie, Isaac K. Gifford Thomas Grover and Nathan Pope, to take these Epistles into consideration, and prepare essays of communications as way may open for it to our friends of these several Yearly Meetings, and to our brethren of Ireland, and present them at a future sitting of this meeting.

Not having received at this time, nor last year, Epistles from our dear brethren of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and Ohio, and this Meeting being brought under deep exercise in relation thereto, we appoint the following friends to take the subject into their solid and deliberate consideration, to seek therein direction of the Head of the Church, and if in clearness way should open for it, to prepare essays of communications to these respective Meetings, that our love may be still manifest to them, viz: Abraham Shearman Jun., Thomas Jones, John Warren, Benjamin Fry, Isaac Lawrence, Samuel Boyd Tobey, Rowland Greene, John Meader, Estes Newhall, John D. Lang, Joseph Tuttle, Thomas Anthony, Stephen A. Chase, David Buffum, George Howland, Samuel Taylor Jun., Charles Atherton, Moses H. Beede, James Jones, and Lindley M. Hoag.

By the accounts received at this time, it appears that Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has united with Swansey Monthly Meeting in approving

1847. the public appearances in the Ministry of Jacob H. Vining, with Greenwich Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Catharine C. Earle, and with Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Jethro H. Mitchell to the station of Elders: That Salem Quarterly Meeting has united with Weare Monthly Meeting, in approving the public appearances in the Ministry of Daniel Page 3d, and with the same Meeting in the appointment of Moses Greene, Mary Bracton and Ephraim Leighton to the station of Elders: That Sandwich Quarterly Meeting has united with Sandwich Monthly Meeting in the appointment of David K. Aiken to the station of an Elder; and that Francis Taber, formerly, in the same station, has been denied the right of membership, by New Bedford Monthly Meeting, he having united with the separatists from our religious Society That Falmouth Quarterly Meeting has united with Simington Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Silas Cartland and Mary Cobb to the station of Elders: That Smithfield Quarterly Meeting has united with Uxbridge Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Joseph Cluff to the station of Elder: That Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting has united with Vassalborough Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Theodate S. Pope, and with Unity Monthly Meeting, in the appointment of Jane H. Jones to the station of Elders; and that Fairfield Quarterly Meeting has united with Litchfield Monthly Meeting, in approving the public appearances in the Ministry of Eliza M. Hunt, and with the appointment of Almira P. Hawkes to the station of an Elder.

All the Quarterly Meetings inform that they have paid, or directed to be paid, their several proportions of Yearly Meeting stock to our treasurer.

Dover Quarterly Meeting informs us that they have appointed Benajah Buffum correspondent for Berwick Monthly Meeting, in place of John D. Lang, who has removed from that Meeting; which information the Clerk is requested to communicate to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, and also to the several Yearly Meetings on this continent.

Adjourned to four o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon, Friends assembled pursuant to adjournment.

Rowland Greene, on behalf of the representatives, informed that they had conferred together, and were agreed in proposing Samuel Boyd Tobey, for Clerk and John Osborne for Assistant Clerk of this Meeting, for the ensuing year; which being united with, they are appointed to those stations accordingly.

The Records of this Meeting for last year were read at this time.

The Committee to superintend our Boarding School at Providence, presented the following report, which was approved by this Meeting, and directed to be forwarded to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed to have the superintendance of the Boarding School at Providence, report, that they have during the past year

given attention to their appointment, and are encouraged to believe, that the Institution continues to be useful

The average number of scholars has been eighty-five, viz: forty-two males, and forty-three females.

Our friends Olney and Lydia Thompson, have acceptably served as Superintendents during the year ending with the last winter term; and Charles Atherton, Samuel Austin and Edward G. Hoag, have been engaged as teachers in the boys' school, and Mary Atherton and Gertrude E Whittier as teachers in that of the girls for the same time. Elizabeth Prosser has also been an assistant teacher in the girls' school, during the winter term.

The Superintendents having expressed their desire to be released at the end of the last winter term, and the Committee believing that usefulness would arise from an arrangement which would unite with the general care and oversight of the Institution as Superintendents, that of taking the general government and direction of the schools, and imparting literary instruction therein, to such extent as may be consistent with the other duties of Superintendents, we have engaged our friends Silas Cornell and Sarah M. Cornell of Rochester, New York, to come into the Institution in that capacity, and assume those duties.

Charles Atherton, Edward G. Hoag, and Richard Dane, are engaged as assistant teachers in the boys' school, (the latter giving instruction in the languages,) and Gertrude E Whittier and Sarah Alice Cornell, as assistant teachers in the girls' school, for a part, or the whole of the present year.

As our friends Silas and Sarah M. Cornell could not consistently with their previous engagements, commence their connection with the Institution until the present time; the former Superintendents kindly consented to remain, temporarily, after their previous engagement expired — and the former arrangements in the schools have mostly been continued since the commencement of the present term.

The change of Superintendents and the arrangements with respect to the principal charge of the School is now about to take place; and the friends, who have for several years occupied the station of Superintendents, being about to leave, seems a fitting occasion to express for their encouragement, the satisfaction of the Committee with their labors. These labors were increased during the latter part of the last year, by more than usual indisposition among the scholars

Meetings for worship have been regularly held in the House, except during the vacations), and harmony has prevailed. On the days of Providence Preparative Meeting, the meetings at the school have been omitted, in accordance with the consent of the Yearly Meetings last year

Examinations of the schools by the Committee, at the close of each term, have been made, as has been heretofore practised, and the department and proficiency of the scholars have been generally satisfactory, evincing a good degree of aptitude and diligence on the part of the pupils, and faithfulness on the part of the teachers.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Superintendent have been examined and settled. By these accounts it appears, that the income of

1847. the school for the year ending with the last winter term has been $10,836 07/100, and the expenditures $12,136 54/100; the expenditures having exceeded the receipts by the sum of $1300 47/100. Seven hundred dollars of this excess, arises from the payment within the year of a demand against the Institution of several years standing.

The amount of the expenditures exceeding the income has been supplied from the balance on hand at the commencement of the year; and being deducted therefrom, leaves a balance on hand at the close of the last term of $1858 05/100.

We would propose that the price of board and tuition be continued the same as last year, viz: Thirty dollars per term, for members of our Yearly Meeting, forty-five dollars for those who are not members, one or both of whose parents are members, and fifty dollars for those of other Yearly Meetings, payable in advance — books and stationary being furnished as at present.

We would also propose, that each Monthly Meeting have the privilege of sending one scholar free of expense for one term, the same to be occupied, either at the next winter or succeeding summer term, at the discretion of the Monthly Meeting — the several Monthly Meetings to notify the Committee at their meeting in the 10th month, of their conclusion, in case they propose to occupy the privilege in the summer term.

The Committee feel it right to express their belief, that there are advantages to be derived to the youth of our Society at the school, which should serve as an encouragement to Friends to place their children there, that they may acquire a guarded religious education, free from many of the temptations to which they are necessarily exposed in more mixed schools, especially those over which Friends have little or no control

And we would earnestly press upon Friends the importance to the society of a continued individual interest in the welfare of the Institution, in whose endowment and management such lively concern has been manifested by valuable Friends who are now gathered to their rest.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Committee

Stephen A. Chase, Clerk.

Providence, 6th month 1st, 1847.

It appearing that a certain tract of land, of about 10 acres, was purchased by the donation left by our late friend Moses Brown to this Meeting for the purchase of real estate for the Institution, in addition to that contemplated by him, and that it was found necessary to procure this in order to obtain that designed to be appended to the School premises by the Donor, and it being the sense of the Committee that the interest of the Institution would be promoted by selling this portion of land and appropriating the income to be derived from the amount obtained by its sale to the improvement of the rest of the real estate — the School committee to be appointed by this Meeting are authorized to effect such sale, and the Treasurer of the School Fund is requested to execute on our

behalf any instrument that may be necessary to convey a legal title to the same.

It being suggested that in some special cases usefulness might result from admitting into the Boarding School some children closely connected with Friends, who are, by our present regulations, excluded therefrom, the subject is refered to the following friends to report their judgment in relation thereto, to a future sitting of this Meeting, viz: Thomas Anthony, Edmond Chace, Nathan Breed, William H. Chase, Isaac Lawrence, George Howland, Lemuel Jones, Nathan Douglass, Thomas Grover, Moses Brown, Ebenezer Fry, Alton Pope, Joseph Tuttle, Benjamin Fry, William Tarr and David Douglass.

As the time of service of three of the members of the School Committee appointed last year, will expire at the present time, agreeably to our present arrangement; the Committee appointed on the subject of the admission of Scholars, are requested to propose to a future sitting of this Meeting, the names of three friends to serve on the School Committee in place of our friends Perez Peck, John Meader and Samuel Boyd Tobey, whose names stand first on the list of last year.

Thomas Hankins, David Redman, William C. Taber, Elisha Jones, Thomas B. Nichols, Edward Earle, Samuel Dennis and Noah Tew Jun., are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the Queries, and present to our sitting tomorrow morning.

William Reynolds, George Howland, Micajah C. Pratt, Henry M. Minott, John Osborne, Edmund Gates, Benajah Buffum, and David Douglass are appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, consider of a sum suitable to be raised by this Meeting the present year, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer.

Adjourned to the 10th hour tomorrow morning.

Third day morning the 15th. Friends convened pursuant to adjournment.

The representatives being called, were all present.

The Meeting entered upon the investigation of the state of Society by reading the Queries and answers to them received at this time from our several Quarterly Meetings, and proceeded therein as far as the 11th inclusive. During this important engagement we were sensibly solemnised in feeling together, and under the baptising influence of Divine love, much pertinent counsel and advice were given by concerned brethren. We were impressively reminded of the paramount duty of meeting together for the worship of our Father in heaven, not only on first day of the week, but on other days when a greater sacrifice may seem to be required. We were admonished to remember the source from whence proceed all our blessings; that it is from God alone that we derive all that we are permitted to enjoy, whether spiritual or temporal; that it is in Him we live, and move, and have our being. We were exhorted to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, being concerned to provoke one another to love and good works, and not neglect the assembling of ourselves together. Much sympathy was manifested for Friends in lonely situations, whose Meetings are very small; but they were earnestly exhorted to faithfulness in the attendance of them — that, although they may be frequently

held in silence, yet, as we are engaged to wait upon the Lord, they often prove seasons of refreshment. Concerned Friends were encouraged to labor faithfully with those who may be remiss in the discharge of this and other Christian duties, although it may be under a sense of much weakness; that, while they may feel their own unworthiness, they fail not to do what is required at their hands by the Head of the Church, by sinking below the gifts he has conferred upon them. Friends were encouraged to leave their worldly occupations, to close their places of business if needful, in order for the due attendance of our week-day meetings, under an awful sense, that He, unto whom worship is due, may even curse our blessings. We were very impressively exhorted to watch the door of our lips, that we sin not with our tongues; that, under a sense of our own frailties, we cultivate charity towards others, and scrupulously avoid indulging in a spirit of detraction, which tends to our own poverty and the injury of our fellow men. We were reminded, that, as God is love, and as his love has been so abundantly manifested to us, in that He gave his well beloved Son for us, that it is indeed incumbent upon us to love one another, and to do good one unto another; and that they who have known this love shed abroad in their hearts, cannot fail to feel it flow unto others, producing a spirit of forgiveness towards those who have trespassed against us, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us. The injunction of our Lord of universal application, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them," was very feelingly held up to view as the rule that should at all times govern us in our intercourse with our fellow men. The right training of our children was pertinently dwelt upon, and its necessity enforced as essential to their good, and to the discharge of the responsibility resting upon parents towards those whom our Heavenly Father has entrusted to our care. We were reminded that, by indulging in a mistaken tenderness, we were inflicting a serious injury upon our offspring; but that as we were engaged to exercise parental authority in love, it would prove a discipline to our children, by which they might be incited more carefully to heed the requirements of their Heavenly Parent; and habits of obedience be established which would be preserving in their future course of life. Finally, both parents and children were affectionately entreated to observe their respective relative duties, that thus they might witness the dew of Heaven to rest upon them.

(Adjourned) to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends again assembled.

The meeting proceeded in the consideration of the state of Society, by reading the remaining answers to the queries. While thus engaged, we thankfully acknowledge that a precious, solemn covering was felt to be mercifully extended over us. A living concern was manifested for the preservation of our members from the reading of pernicious books, which are at this day so abundant in the world; and for their encouragement in the frequent, reverent perusal of the Holy Scriptures, in accordance with the continued concern of this Society since its first rise, and which was so eminently exhibited, practically, by our forefathers in the truth. We were affectionately reminded

that they who are most carefully engaged to follow the direct and immediate leadings of the Spirit of Truth, most highly reverence and value these sacred writings, which were given forth by the same Spirit, and which have been so marvellously preserved, pure and unmutilated, to the present day, and which are able to make wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. Parents were affectionately encouraged often to assemble their families for the purpose of reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, and in silent intinversion of mind, and with prayerful hearts meditating thereon, that their precious contents may be opened to our understandings and blessed to us. We were entreated not to be taken in that snare of the enemy which is laid for us, by inducing us to neglect this practice from fear of being found in a lifeless formality in its maintenance; but that while we should guard, with godly jealousy, against this error on the one hand, we were impressively reminded that we might err on the other hand, and neglect the observance of those necessary practices which are essential to our Christian advancement, and which are in the ordering of Him who knows our necessities, and who has so abundantly provided for them.

The following is a summary of the answers received:

Answer 1st. Nearly all our meetings, both for worship and discipline, have been duly held. Exceptions are noticed in the holding of small meetings for worship in the answers from five of our Quarterly Meetings, occasioned principally by sickness and inclemency of the weather. Meetings on First days appear to have been generally attended by most Friends, while mid-week meetings, and those for discipline, are more neglected by some. The hour is nearly observed. Generally clear of unbecoming behaviour, a few instances of sleeping excepted. Love appears to have been extended.

2d. Love and unity are in good degree maintained, and detraction mostly guarded against, yet not without some exceptions. When differences have arisen, care appears to have been taken to end them.

3d. Friends are generally careful to bring up those under their direction in plainness; to restrain them from pernicious reading and from corrupt conversation, and to be exemplary therein themselves; yet a deficiency is manifest in a few, in these respects. The Holy Scriptures appear to be frequently read in most Friends' families.

4th. Friends are generally careful to confine the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes. A few exceptions are noticed in the answers from four of our Quarterly Meetings, all of which are under care. The unnecessary frequenting of Taverns, and places of public resort, mostly avoided. Moderation and temperance appear to be maintained on the occasions referred to.

5th. Friends are generally careful in the several parts of this query. A few instances of minors being placed from among Friends are noticed in the answers from one of our Quarterly Meetings, and one exception is given in another.

6th. Most Friends appear to be careful that our proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline. A few instances of deviation are reported by four of our Quarterly Meetings; most of which are under notice.

7th. Generally clear. Two exceptions of a military nature are noticed in the answers from one Quarterly Meeting, in which some care has been taken. Some feeling exist in the full maintenance of our testimony to a free gospel ministry

is also reported by one Quarterly Meeting, and an instance of one individual attending meetings of other denominations by another.

8th. Friends appear to be generally careful in the several parts of this query.

9th. Marriages are all recorded. A good degree of care appears to be taken in regard to the record of births, deaths and burials. A few removals without certificates, most of which are under notice.

10th. Care appears to be generally taken to deal with offenders as queried, though not in all cases so seasonably as would be best; and endeavors are used to place judgment according to discipline

Having at this Meeting the acceptable company of our beloved friends Lydia Dean of Redstone Monthly and Quarterly Meeting, Vermont, and Thebe C. Haines of Redstone Monthly and Quarterly Meeting, satisfactory testimonials from their respective Meetings were read at this time expressive of the unity of their friends with them as ministers, and with their present religious engagements. We have also the acceptable company of our esteemed friend Eli Haines, an elder in unity, companion to his wife in her present religious visit, and of our friend Cynthia Knowles, companion to our friend Lydia Dean, satisfactory certificates from whose respective meetings were read at this time.

A Testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, approved by Smithfield Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Alice Rathbun, has been read at this time; and being satisfactory, it is directed to be recorded.

A proposal from Fairfield and Vicksboro' Quarterly Meetings, in relation to some change in the time of holding those Meetings, being contained in their reports received at this time, we appoint our friends Joseph Metcalf, Perez Peck, Enoch Page, Samuel Boyce, Isaac R. Gifford, John Howland, Abraham Winslow, John W. Minott, John E. Fry, Edward Foster, Timothy Hanson and Joseph Tuttle to take the same into consideration, and report to a future sitting of this meeting

All proposition contained in the report of Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, relative to the expenses incurred by the Yearly Meeting, being brought into consideration, the subject is referred to the representatives from the several Quarterly Meetings, who are requested to report to a future sitting.

Adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Fourth day morning, the 16th. Friends assembled according to adjournment; the representatives all present.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings for the past year were laid before us, and read, and the proceedings of that Meeting in relation to the various subjects that have claimed its attention are satisfactory to us, as has been very fully expressed at this time; and our friends Rowland Greene, John Warren, Thomas Anthony, David Buffum, John Meader, Perez Peck, Joseph Metcalf, Benjamin Fry, Lindley M Hoag, Edmund Chace, Samuel Gifford, Isaac Jones, John Howland, Joseph Tuttle, William C. Taber, Eseles Newhall, James N. Fry, David Douglass, Nathan Pope, John Paige, Smith Battey, John Osborne, John D Lang and Samuel Taylor Jun^r are appointed to propose to a future sitting the names of suitable Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

A Testimony of Vienna Monthly Meeting approved by Salem Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend John Page, and one of Unity—

Monthly Meeting, approved by Rahway Quarterly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Phebe B. Tabor, were read at this time, and being approved, are directed to be recorded.

Adjourned to five o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon. Friends met again

By the records of the Meeting for Sufferings, it appearing that that Meeting had proposed some changes in our Discipline on the subject of Marriage, the same were now laid before us and deliberately considered, and being united with, are adopted by this Meeting as its Discipline in this respect; and the Clerk is directed to place the same upon our records, and transmit them to our Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, the women's Yearly Meeting uniting herein; and the several Meetings are desired to place the same in our Book of Discipline

Page 62d, 2d paragraph.

In the accomplishment of marriage it is advised that the parties should inform the men's and women's Monthly Meeting, to which the woman belongs, of their intentions, through the Preparative Meeting, when convenient; and at a proper time they should make it known in both meetings either by a written communication signed by both parties, or by verbal declaration, that "with Divine permission and Friends approbation, they intend marriage with each other"; whereupon two friends in each meeting, (if both the parties belong to the same Meeting) should be appointed by minute to make the necessary inquiries respecting the clearness to proceed in marriage of the party or parties who shall be members of said Monthly Meeting

Page 63d., 2d. paragraph.

It is advised to solemnize our marriages at the usual week-day meeting, to which the woman belongs, at the close of a Monthly Meeting, in a public meeting of men and women friends; unless circumstances may induce the Monthly Meeting to permit it otherwise, it being understood that the parties are to be present at the Monthly Meeting when permission is granted them to consummate their marriage, if it be their intention to accomplish it, at the close of said Meeting.

Form of a marriage certificate as near as circumstances will admit.

Whereas, A.B. of —, son of D. and E.B. of —, in the County of —, and State of —, and S.T. daughter of M, and M.T. of —, in the county of —, have declared their intentions of taking each other in marriage, to the Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, held in —, according to the good order used among them; and their proceedings, after due inquiry, and deliberate consideration thereof, being allowed by the said Meeting; they appearing clear of all others, and having consent of parents (or guardians) concerned —

Now these are to certify to all whom it may concern, that for the full accomplishing of their said intentions, this — day of the — month, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and —, they, the said A.B. and S.T. appeared at a religious meeting of the aforesaid Society in —; and the said A.B. taking the said S.T. by the hand, did openly declare as followeth — "In the presence of this assembly I take this my friend S.T. to be my wife, promising, through Divine assistance, to be unto her a faithful and affectionate husband, until death shall separate us". And the

1847. said S.S. and there and there declare in like manner as followeth; "In the presence of this assembly, I take this my friend A.B. to be my husband, promising through Divine assistance to be unto him a faithful and affectionate wife until death shall separate us." - or words of the like import.

And the said A.B. and S.S. as a further confirmation thereof, have hereunto set their hands; she after the custom of marriage, adopting the name of her husband

A. B.
S. B.

And we whose names are hereunto subscribed, being present at the solemnization of the said marriage, have set our hands as witnesses thereunto, the day and year above written.

On the 66th page, the 3d paragraph should read thus -

Monthly Meetings are authorized, if the case require it, to disown such parents or guardians, as encourage the marriages of their children and those under their care (members of our religious Society) contrary to the good order established amongst us, if after Christian and brotherly labor with them they cannot be brought to a due sense of their error, and a satisfactory acknowledgement of the same.

The last paragraph on the 66th and 67th pages to be omitted.

The second paragraph on 123d page to read as follows

"Advised, that persons who make or encourage proposals of marriage with each other, do early obtain the consent of their parents, or guardians, and that none keep company with those who are not of our Society on that account. That no parent or guardian encourage their children thus keeping company or marriage, and that friends be careful to maintain our testimony faithfully against such disorderly marriages.

The Committee to whom was refered the consideration of the propositions of Vassalborough and Fairfield Quarterly Meetings, in relation to a change in the time and places of holding their meetings, made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting now sitting."

The Committee appointed to consider the subject from Fairfield and Vassalborough Quarterly Meetings, proposing some change in the time and place for holding the same, report, That we have met with the representatives from those Meetings, and after hearing their statements, are united in judgment, that the proposed change would be a judicious one, and add to their convenience - which we submit to the Meeting.

Joseph Metcalf
Isaac R Gifford, on
behalf of the Committee. "

Newport 6th mo 15th. 1847

which is united with; and the changes proposed are approved and adopted by this Meeting, (the women's Yearly Meeting uniting therein,) and are as follows: That Fairfield Quarterly Meeting be held in future at Fairfield, in the 11th and 5th months, and at Halloweek in the 9th and 2d months; and that the Quarterly Meeting in the 5th month, be held on the fourth day, of the same week, in which it is now held; and that, Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting in the 5th month, be held on the 6th day of the same week, in which it is now held.

The Committee on the concern of this Meeting in relation to the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians, made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee having the care of the concern of Friends for the improvement of the condition of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes of Indians, report, That they have not been unmindful of the object of their appointment. They have had several meetings of conference in relation to their welfare; and, although the way has not opened for much active service, yet, we are encouraged to believe that the time is near when Friends will again visit them at their several locations

Stephen Jones, Jr.,
on behalf of the Committee: "

- which is acceptable to us - And although it appears that way has not opened for Friends to attend to much active service on their behalf, during the past year, yet we are encouraged to believe that usefulness may still continue to result from the concern of this Meeting - and the Committee are continued, and desired to render them such aid and advice as they may be enabled to do, and report to this meeting next year. Our friends, Samuel Taylor, Jr. and Eli Jones, are added to the Committee.

Adjourned to the 4th hour to-morrow afternoon.

Fifth day afternoon, the 17th. The meeting assembled pursuant to adjournment. The representatives being called, were all present.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration subjects connected with the Boarding School, made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration subjects connected with the Boarding School, report, That in their judgment usefulness might result from admitting into the Boarding School, in some special cases, children who are not members of our Society, who are under the care of Friends, and being brought up as such. The compensation to be $45 per term. We propose the following Friends in the place of those whose time of service has expired according to the regulations adopted at our last Yearly Meeting, viz: Thomas Anthony, George Haviland, Jr., Gideon C. Smith, Elizabeth Wing, Phebe R. Gifford, Ann B. Earle.

On behalf of the Committee, Samuel Jones,
Ruth Earle: "

- which is satisfactory - and our friends Thomas Anthony, George Haviland, Jr. and Gideon C. Smith, are appointed on the part of this Meeting in addition to those now under appointment, to superintend the various concerns of our Boarding School at Providence, with the usual powers confided by this Meeting to their Select Committee, and they are requested to report to this Meeting next year. The Committee are authorized to dispense with the meetings at the School house during the time of holding this Yearly Meeting, if they deem it best to do so, it being understood that the children and family can attend the meetings of Friends in Providence.

The Committee on the subject of Education, appointed by this Meeting last year, made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee on the subject of Education, appointed at our last Yearly Meeting

1847.

Meeting, repeat. That they have endeavoured to attend to the duties of their appointment and have met at the time and places specified, viz: at the School House in Providence, in the 10th. month last, and at this place during the present week.

At the meeting in the 10th month last, several of the members of this Committee met with the School Committee, and were present at the examination of the schools, with which they were well satisfied; and we have felt concerned to encourage our dear friends to avail themselves of the privilege of sending their children to the school, believing that they may enjoy benefits there, that they cannot obtain in mixed Schools.

From reports received during the present week from different sections of the Yearly Meeting, we are encouraged to believe, that an increasing interest is generally felt among Friends for the guarded education of their children. The following statistical information, covered in accordance with a proposition adopted in the 10th. month last, containing returns from all the Monthly Meetings in the Yearly Meeting, except four, was also received at this time

No. of Children between the ages of 4 and 16, ------	1308
" " " " " 16 and 20,	551
" " Monthly Meeting Schools	1
" " Preparative " "	3
" " Family Schools	6
" " Children attending Friends' Schools exclusively as such ----	173
" " Friends' Children attending mixed schools,	1443

The minutes of the School Committee for the last year having been laid before us, both at this, and the meeting in the 10th month last, were read, and an interchange of thought and feeling was freely entered into. The faithfulness of that Committee in their arduous duties, as manifested by the reading of the minutes, has been very satisfactory to us, and we have much desired their encouragement herein.

Many very pertinent remarks were made by members both of this and the School Committee, urging upon Friends the responsibility which they are under, of endeavoring to give their children a guarded religious education at home, in order to counteract the many evils resulting from so large a proportion of our children attending mixed schools.

From the new and untried situation in which they found themselves placed, the Committee have not accomplished as much as they could have desired, but hope that usefulness will result from their labors.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Committee,

Geo. Howland, Jr. Clerk.

Newport, 6th month 16th. 1847.

which is acceptable to us; and the labors of the Committee under their appointment are satisfactory to this Meeting; and the same Committee are continued under appointment on the part of this Meeting for another year, with the exception of our friend Geo. Howland, Jr., now appointed on the School Committee, and of Joseph Eastland, removed from within the limits of Smithfield Monthly Meeting, and the appointment of William S. Howland and Joshua Cobb, in their places respectively; and the Committee are encouraged and desired

to continue to attend to the concerns of this Meeting in their appointment, and to report next year. The Meeting was introduced into much exercise in view of the statistical facts brought before us in the foregoing report, and Friends were encouraged to increasing exertion to promote more fully a religious, guarded education among the Youth of our Society.

The Committee appointed last year in relation to the School Fund made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting:

We the Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to receive from the Executor of our late friend William Jenkins, former Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting School Fund, the Books, papers and securities of the School property in his possession and to transfer the same to Thomas Wainwright, the present Treasurer, report, That we have attended to this service, and have made the necessary transfer; and agreeably to the direction of the Yearly Meeting, have deposited the receipt of the Treasurer of the School fund with David Buffum, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting.

John D. Lang, Geo. Howland,
Joseph Metcalf, John Osborne,
Samuel Boyd Tobey. "—

Providence 6th mo. 30th 1846.

—which is satisfactory to us.

The Representatives to whom was refered the proposition of Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, in relation to the escpenses incurred by the Yearly Meeting, made the following report, viz:

"The representatives to whom was refered the proposition from the Fairfield Quarterly Meeting, in relation to the escpenses of the Yearly Meeting, have conferred together thereon, and have come to the conclusion to propose to the Yearly Meeting the addition of the following minute—the provisions of which are the same as those of the minute made by the Meeting for Sufferings in the year 1830—and with only a slight alteration in the language to render its meaning more explicit, viz: Such Friends as are of ability, who attend the Yearly Meeting, should bear their own expenses—but those who may not consider themselves able to do so, who reside north of a line from Boston, running west to the Connecticut River, be at liberty to avail themselves of such provision as may be made by this Meeting; and that Friends of the island of Nantucket, and the representatives from all the Quarterly Meetings, shall be included in the provision made for those north of the line above mentioned in the same circumstances.

On behalf of the Representatives,
Stephen A. Chase. —

Sixth Month 16th. 1847.

—which is satisfactory to this Meeting.

The Committee to whom it was refered to propose the names of Friends to compose a Meeting for Sufferings, reported the following, viz: Rowland Greene, John Warren, Abraham Sherman, Jr. Estes Hathaway, Matthew Purinton, James A. Fry, Nicholas Congdon, Thomas Anthony, Edward Wing, Benjamin Fry, John Osborne, Jonathan Dennis, David Buffum, Abijah Chase, Peter Peck, William Reynolds, Moses Sherman, Joseph Metcalf, John Meader, Benjamin Howland, Nathan Pope, Samuel Boyd Tobey, John D. Lang, Moses H. Beede, Samuel Taylor, jun. Edmund Chase, Allen Wing, Samuel Boyce, John Howland, Joseph Tabor of Albion, Timothy

1847. L. Collins, Beriah Collins, Olney Thompson, Abraham Barker of Tiverton, Samuel Jones of Brunswick, Thomas Hoskins, Stephen Jones, Jr. Lindley M. Hoag, David K. Wilbur, Stephen A. Chase, William H. Chase, David Douglass, William Tabb and Isaac Lawrence, which are satisfactory to this Meeting, and they are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings, on behalf of this Meeting for the ensuing year, and desired to attend to such subjects connected with the welfare of our religious Society as may properly claim their attention, according to the original organization of that Meeting.

Believing that usefulness may result from printing the minutes of this Meeting, a suitable extract therefrom, and furnishing them to our subordinate Meetings, and the families of Friends, the Clerks are requested, with the assistance of our friends Stephen A. Chase, John Meader and John D. Lang, to prepare them for the press, and cause a sufficient number to be printed to meet the purpose contemplated by this Meeting. The Clerk is directed to transmit the same to our Quarterly Meetings.

The Committee appointed in relation to the subject of our correspondence with Philadelphia and Ohio Yearly Meetings, read the following report, (which is satisfactory and fully united with by this Meeting,) viz:

"The Committee appointed to consider the circumstance of our Yearly Meeting not having received Epistles from our brethren of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and Ohio, neither at this time, nor at our last Yearly Meeting, have met and deliberated thereon; and in the course of this deliberation have been introduced into a deep feeling of sorrow and regret, that an epistolary intercourse which has long subsisted, as we trust, to the mutual benefit of the Yearly Meetings, and to the promotion of the cause we profess to advocate, by drawing closer the cords of Christian love between brethren of the same religious profession, and thereby imparting strength to hold fast to this our profession, should by any means be interrupted.

Our epistolary correspondence with the Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia has subsisted for more than 140 years. It was commenced, we doubt not, under the influence of the Spirit of Truth, and on the profession of the brethren of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, at a time, when, in the early days of our history as a distinct religious body our worthy predecessors were exercised by the grace of God, faithfully and fearlessly to stand for the cause of true and vital Christianity, and were largely instrumental in the Divine hand in holding forth to the world the standard of true, vital, spiritual religion; even the religion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who has graciously declared that he came that his humble dedicated followers might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

With Ohio Yearly Meeting we began our intercourse at the commencement of their holding a Yearly Meeting, at which time we addressed them in brotherly love, and gave them our hearty salutation.

We have endeavored according to our measure, in the light of truth, to examine whether any thing on the part of this Yearly Meeting has caused the interruption in the friendly interchange of these proofs of brotherly regard. We are not sensible that any thing of this kind has taken place. Why then should we cease to regard the members of these Yearly Meetings as our brethren, one in religious profession, and bound by the laws of the Gospel to be one another's helpers in the Lord.

The spirit of the Gospel is the spirit of restoring love. He that came, that we being enemies, might be reconciled unto God, is, as we

humbly believe, graciously disposed, by the shedding forth of the enlarged influences of his love, to reconcile us not only unto himself, but one unto another, and to be a healer of breaches, as well as a restorer of paths to dwell in.

Reverently inclining unto him, therein, for a blessing on our endeavours to manifest our continued love for those we believe, we have prepared essays for epistles to each of the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and Ohio, which we commit to the consideration of the Yearly Meeting

On behalf of the Committee,

Rowland Greene, Thomas Jones,
Hannah Shearman Jr. John Warner.

Milford, 16th Mo. 17th 1847.

The essays of the epistles to our brethren of Philadelphia and Ohio, referred to in the foregoing report, were now read, and being approved and fully united with, the Clerk is directed to sign them on our behalf, and forward them to those Meetings respectively. [For these Epistles, see pages 346. 347. 348.]

The Committee on the correspondence are requested to present to our next sitting, minutes for our friends, now in attendance of this Meeting, from other Yearly Meetings on this continent. [Our friends Benjamin Seebohm and Robert Lindsey, not having accomplished their prospect of service within this Yearly Meeting, the subject of preparing returning minutes on their behalf was deferred.]

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Sixth day morning, the 18th. Friends again convened pursuant to adjournment. The Representatives all present but one, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was rendered.

We have been introduced into tender sympathy, at this time, with our dear friends in different meetings, who are still brought into trials in consequence of the recent secessions within their limits; and under this feeling we appoint our friends John Warner, John D Lang, John Osborne, Isaac Lawrence, David Buffum, Samuel Bond Jobey, George Rowland, Samuel Taylor, Jun.r John Moreland, Stephen Jones, Jr. John Meader, Elias Hicks, and Thomas Anthony, to attend such of those Meetings as they may deem fit, and to seek in the ministry of wisdom which may be graciously afforded them, to render such advice and assistance as may tend to the strengthening of Friends under their present difficulties, and to the prosperity of truth, and to report to this Meeting, next year.

The Committee on the concern of this Meeting for the Indians located west of the Mississippi, made the following report, viz:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

The Committee having charge of the concern of New England and Genesee Yearly Meetings, relative to the Indians located west of the Mississippi, report,

That they have not been unmindful of the important trust confided to them, but way has not opened for much active service since our last Yearly Meeting. Some of its members have, however, kept up a correspondence with Friends of said of the Yearly Meetings who have the more immediate charge of the Shawnee School, by which we are informed that that institution is in a more flourishing condition than heretofore, both as respects the dwelling-house and other buildings, as well as the size and improvement of the school. This institution, in the opinion of the Committee, promises much usefulness to the tribe in which it is situated. Our information does not enable us to speak very definitively with regard to the other Tribes

that have been visited by Friends of this Yearly Meeting; but from the best information which we have, we are of opinion that no very decided change has been wrought for the better.

We have received a communication from the Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, on the concern of that Meeting for the Indians west of the Mississippi, accompanied by a document from the War Department containing instructions to its officers and agents, which we herewith submit to the Yearly Meeting.

In conclusion we would remark, that, in our opinion, some usefulness has arisen to the Indians from the part that Friends have taken in their concerns.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6th mo 18, 1847 John Howland.

-which is satisfactory to us. And although way has not opened during the past year for much active service on the part of this Committee, we deem it right still to continue under appointment a committee for the purpose of rendering any service that they may be enabled to do in promotion of the original concern of this Meeting; and our friends, John D. Lang, Samuel Tayla, Jr., John Meader, John Osborne, Lindley M. Hoag, Samuel Boyce, Samuel Boyd Tobey, George Howland, John Haviland, Benjamin Fry, David Buffum, and Stephen A. Chase, are appointed to this service.

The Committee to settle the Treasurer's account, and for other purposes, made the following report, viz:

"To the Yearly Meeting, now sitting:

The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's account, and for other purposes, report: That we have examined and settled his account, and find a balance due him of $563 80/100. We would propose the sum of Two thousand dollars to be raised for the service of the Yearly Meeting the ensuing year, and nominate David Buffum for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee,

Newport, 6th mo. 17, 1847. George Howland.

-Which is satisfactory; and our Quarterly Meetings are requested to raise their several proportions of the sum proposed, $2000, and to forward the same to our Treasurer, to which service we appoint our friend David Buffum, as proposed in the above report.

The Meeting for Sufferings is requested still to continue its attention to a revision of our Discipline, as way may open for in the truth.

The Clerk is directed to sign on our behalf the following minute for our friends now in attendance at this Meeting, viz: Our beloved friend, Charles Haviland attended this Meeting. His company and religious services have been acceptable to us. [A similar minute for our friends Lydia Dean and Sheba C Haines.] Our esteemed friend Eli Haines attended this Meeting in companion to his wife. His company and solid deportment have been acceptable and satisfactory to us. [A similar minute for our friend Cynthia Knowles.]

Among the exercises which have been with us during our deliberations at this time, has been a concern for the consistent and upright maintenance by all our members of our testimony to the unchristian nature of all wars and fightings- a testimony in accordance with the belief and practice of the primitive followers of Christ. We are liable at this time, to some peculiar temptations on this account.

Our country is involved in war with a neighboring nation, and armies are contending in the field; and the testimony of the Scripture, that "every battle of the warrior is with confused noise and garments rolled in blood", is brought home to us by frequent intelligence from the scene of strife. We earnestly desire that all our dear friends may be mercifully preserved in a Christian frame of mind under these trying circumstances.

To the humble follower of Him whose kingdom is not of this world, but who, as a stranger and pilgrim here, is journeying towards another country, that is, a heavenly - how do the destruction and horrors of the field of battle, or the city made desolate by an encompassing foe, the tears of the widow and the cries of the orphan, fill his mind with sorrow! We can have no sentiment allied to rejoicing at scenes like these. His soul must be clothed with mourning, and his spirit with lamentation, and his prayer will be, that that day may be hastened when the nations shall learn war no more.

Our dear friends are affectionately entreated to be careful how they expose themselves unnecessarily to temptations calculated to lead the mind from a right frame of thought on these subjects; or by mingling with those who take delight in such strife, become in any measure leavened into their spirit; that in all our intercourse with the world, we may manifest ourselves to be followers of Him whose advent was announced by the song of the heavenly host, of peace on earth and good will to men.

In contemplating the present war in which our country is engaged, its exceeding wickedness has been forcibly presented to us, not only in its direct consequences as a war, but in the principal object, which, as we believe, produced it, namely the perpetuation and extension of slavery. We have been concerned that our members may keep ever before them the miseries and sinfulness inseparable from the practice of holding our fellow-men in bondage, and its utter inconsistency with the command of Christ, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them"; and that we fail not, faithfully, in the fear of the Lord, to bear our testimony against it, not having excused ourselves in consequence of its practical enactment not coming immediately before our view in this part of our land.

Epistles to our brethren of the Yearly Meetings in London, Ireland, Newyork, Baltimore, North Carolina and Indiana, were read at this time, and being approved, the Clerk is directed to sign them on our behalf, and forward them to those Meetings respectively.

The Clerk is authorized to make any necessary extracts from our Minutes, not already provided for, and sign them on our behalf.

At this stage of our Meeting, a truly acceptable and edifying Epistle from our brethren of the Yearly Meeting of London, held last month, was received and read.

Having been favored, during the several sittings of this Meeting, to witness, as we humbly trust, the overshadowing wing of Ancient Goodness to be very near us, under which we have been enabled to attend to the various important concerns of the Church that have claimed our attention, in unity and love; under a humbling sense of the mercy vouchsafed to us, we now conclude, proposing to meet again in this place at the usual time next year, if the Lord permit.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

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Epistles

from the Yearly Meeting of Friends, for New England held on Rhode-Island, from the 13th to the 18th inclusive of the Sixth Month, 1847 — to other Yearly Meetings of Friends.

To the Yearly Meeting of London,

Dear Friends,

Being met together at this time in our Yearly Meeting, we have gratefully to acknowledge the goodness of our Heavenly Father, in that, notwithstanding our manifold infirmities, His goodness has been manifested towards us, and the sustaining arm of Divine power, has been felt to be underneath for our support. We have desired, that, under a sense of his unmerited mercy our hearts may be lifted in humble gratitude to Him, the author of all our mercies, that He has been pleased so to cement us together, that we have been enabled to transact the affairs of truth, which have claimed our attention, in brotherly love and the precious unity of the spirit.

Our meeting has been large, and attended by many of the younger class of our members, whose solid deportment has been comforting to us, giving evidence that many of them are under the preparing hand of Him, who sitteth as a Refiner with fire; and as a Fuller with soap; and who, we humbly believe, is graciously disposed, as they submit themselves unto him fully, and abide the power of his baptizing spirit, to redeem them from their fallen estate by nature and to fit and prepare them for his work and service. We crave that such as these may possess their souls in patience, that they may be preserved from taking their flight in the winter, or on the Sabbath day. Thus we may hope for a succession of those, who, through the merits of Redeeming love, may be prepared to sustain those precious testimonies, which, in the counsels of unerring wisdom, we believe as a people, we are called upon to bear in the face of the world, to the praise of Him, who hath laid them upon us. We are persuaded that his commandments are not grievous; that He requires nothing of his humble followers, that in his might they may not perform, relying on his unfailing promise, "as thy days so shall thy strength be."

Our forefathers in the truth, while they unfalteringly trod the bloodstained path of the followers of Him, of whom, in old time it was prophetically declared, that "he was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief," accounted stricken of God, and afflicted, yet they were marvellously preserved in meekness. When they were reviled they reviled not again, patiently enduring buffetings and stripes, and even death itself, in the testimonies of Truth, and to have consciences void of offence towards God and towards man. Meekness was a distinguishing trait in their daily walk; and bore the same mark of their discipleship. We have greatly desired to follow them, as they followed their Lowly Saviour — to shew forth in our lives, the fruits of that spirit, which breathes peace on earth, and good will to men. And while we believe ourselves called upon, in the fear of the Lord, to maintain the doctrines of the Gospel, as they were maintained by our predecessors in the truth, and that blessed order and government, which he has instituted in the Church, We earnestly crave, that all may be done in the spirit, and after the example of Him, who was meek and lowly of heart, that we may be kindly affectioned one towards another, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us.

We have sorrowfully, to inform you, that a few separate meetings under

our names continue to be held within our borders; but we can truly say, that if those our brethren who are separated from us, could be rightfully restored to the unity of the body, it would be cause of rejoicing among us. Our desires are formed that the love of the Gospel of Christ, may be cherished and abound, that we may, at all times, be open, for so desirable an event.

Your acceptable Epistle of last year has been read in our meeting, to our comfort and edification. We are afresh made sensible of the value, in the orderings of the truth, of these testimonials of Christian regard. We desire that they may serve to strengthen our faith in that arm of power, which has hitherto mercifully sustained us, strengthen our love one towards another, and enable us to be one another's helpers and joy in the Lord.

From year to year, as we annually meet, we are reminded of the uncertain tenure of our lives, by the vacant seats of those, who are removed from their fields of labor here, to their everlasting rewards; and we may truly say, "All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field." Respecting some of those lately removed, we have received and read memorials of their devoted lives and peaceful deaths, which have served to strengthen our faith, that verily, there is a reward for the righteous. Our dear friends Benjamin Seebohm and Robert Lindsey from your land, have been in acceptable attendance with us, at this time.

In conclusion, we bid you, farewell! May the Lord strengthen us to do his will.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

N.B. Correspondents. The same as last year.

To Ireland.

Dear Friends,

Having once more been mercifully permitted to come together in our annual assembly, for the transaction of the affairs of the Church, we have been comforted by the evidence vouchsafed, that, notwithstanding our great unworthiness, the Lord is still pleased to remember us for good; under a contrite sense of which our spirits have united in the grateful acknowledgement, that one is our Master even Christ, and that all we are brethren. In this comforting persuasion, our distant friends have been brought near in the love of the Gospel; we have felt a fervent desire that the blessed fellowship which is in the truth, may increasingly abound throughout our borders; that as members of one body, our dear friends everywhere, with ourselves, may, through an unfeigned submission to the baptisms of the Holy Ghost, be cleansed from every thing that would hurt or defile; that with the full recognition of the great truth that the cause is not ours, but His, who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light, and to perfect holiness in his fear, we may seek to confirm one another in the faith of the Gospel. We assuredly believe that the Lord has raised us up to be a peculiar people, to show forth his praises in the earth; and that it is incumbent upon us

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to maintain inviolate the precious doctrines and testimonies of Christianity, as received and faithfully promulgated by our worthy predecessors in the Truth, and for which they suffered sore persecutions of stripes, imprisonment, and the spoiling of their goods, not counting their lives dear unto themselves, if so be they might finish their course with joy." These doctrines and testimonies are sacred, because they are doctrines and testimonies of the unchangeable truth; and we honour the memory of those Ancient Worthies, who, after a long and dark night of apostacy, were made instrumental in the divine hand of reviving them in their fulness and original simplicity, and who, through their devotedness and integrity, have transmitted them unsullied to posterity.

It is an animating and consoling consideration, that we have brethren, widely scattered on the Lord's footstool, both in our land, and on the other side of the Atlantic, who walk by the same rule and mind the same thing, and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, which has so strikingly characterised our Society from its first rise, has been felt to be very precious. We believe that the epistolary correspondence, which has been so long maintained among the different Yearly Meetings, has been, through the appointment and blessing of the Great Head of the Church, a means of keeping alive, and deepening their mutual interest in one another's welfare, and strengthening the cords which have bound these together as one body. We earnestly desire that nothing may be suffered to interrupt this salutary medium of intercourse, and interchange of feeling, but that it may continue to be sustained on the ground of Christian fellowship, that thereby we may comfort and edify one another.

Our meeting this year has been about as large as usual, and we have been comforted in the company of many dear friends from other Yearly Meetings. The attendance of our beloved youth has been numerous, and not a few of them have exemplified by their sobriety, and the deep interest which they have manifested in our deliberations, that they love the blessed cause, and are impressed with a sense of the incomparable importance of the salvation of their souls. We crave that this interesting class both among you and us, may bow to the yoke of the blessed Redeemer, yielding their whole hearts into his framing hand, surrendering their wills to the cross of Christ, and to the training of his holy government, and to the discipline of his heavenly law. Then they will find rest to their souls, in the enjoyment of that peace that passeth understanding, and will be fitted for service in the Church, and be prepared to fill the responsible places of those who having borne the burthen and heat of the day, are being removed one after another to their eternal rewards in Heaven. Oh that our dear young friends might take heed in watchfulness and prayer, to the teachings and guidance of "the Spirit of Truth", as he is manifested unto them in the secret of their hearts, that being convinced thereby, they may come through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and repentance towards God, and the sprinkling of the blood of the everlasting covenant to experience association with "the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness nor shadow of turning" — then the Lord would delight in them as in his dear children, would protect them in the hour of temptation, and lead them about, and instruct them, and keep them as the apple of his eye

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

To New York.

Dear Friends,

Your acceptable Epistle, of 5th month last, has been received, and read at this time to our comfort, affording renewed evidence that we continue to be one people, that one is our Master, even Christ, and all we are brethren. We highly appreciate the value of this Christian intercourse, and have, at this time, remembered with gratitude, the strength and encouragement derived through this channel from you, during the progress of that spirit which led to the late secession from this Yearly Meeting. — And beloved friends, as you are now, not without your trials, we would reciprocate the feelings of sympathy and fellowship regard, which were then extended to us, and would say to you, be not dismayed, but trust in Him who said, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world".

Acceptable Epistolary communications from the other Yearly Meetings in this Country, except Philadelphia and Ohio, and also one from our brethren of the Yearly Meeting in London, have been received at this time, and have been truly comforting and strengthening to us. In the reading of these testimonials of Christian regard, our distant brethren, have, in the love of the Gospel, been brought near, and we have been dipped into fellow-feeling with the rightly exercised laborers in the Lord's Vineyard, in their various allotments. We would offer to these the word of encouragement, and would salute them in the language of the Apostle, "Be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

In considering the state of Society as reported from our Quarterly Meetings, we have been humbled under a sense of the deficiencies existing among us — yet, we are encouraged in believing, that, notwithstanding our weaknesses and short comings, there is a living concern maintained for the support of our ancient principles and testimonies.

Our meeting has at this time been large, and we would thankfully acknowledge, that we have been favored with an evidence of the continuance of Divine Love, through which we have been enabled to transact the weighty concerns that have come before us, in much harmony; and have been made to feel that there is strength in a unity of exercise, and a joint engagement of spirit. We trust, that it is under the influence of this pure Love, that desires have been begotten in our hearts for the welfare of the Church, and for the increase and preservation of that precious unity and fellowship, without which we cannot hope that a blessing will attend our labours for the promotion of the cause of Truth and Righteousness in the earth.

We have greatly desired, that in this day of proving and trial that has been permitted to await our Society, we may be individually engaged to examine our hearts, and to inquire in the fear of the Lord, whether there is any thing within us, which obstructs the free circulation of brotherly love; that we may be concerned, under a humbling sense of our own frailties, to put up our petitions oftener than the return of the morning, that through the baptizing power of Divine grace, every thing within us that tends to lessen our love one for another may be removed. We believe, that as this heart-searching work is carried on, we shall often be drawn forth in spirit to petition for each other's preservation, and for an increase of that precious unity, whereby we may become one in Christ Jesus our

Holy Head", through whom we have access by one Spirit into the Father", and come to be built upon that sure foundation of the Apostles and the Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord."

"We are persuaded in the belief that this was the design of our blessed Savior when he prayed that his disciples might all be one," as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us, that the world may believe that thou hast sent me". As this is our individual concern, we believe that those things which tend to mar the precious unity of the Church, would be removed, and we should become more and more cemented together as one people - One in suffering, one in rejoicing, and one in the hope of salvation through a crucified Saviour.

With the Salutation of love, we remain your friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Jolley Clerk

To Baltimore.

Dear Friends,

With hearts reverently thankful to the Author of all our mercies who hath graciously vouchsafed his presence among us at this season, we tenderly salute you, desiring that the Lord Jesus Christ may dwell in you richly, with all wisdom, and that both you and we may be built up in the most holy faith.

We have been favoured with renewed evidence at this time, that the God faith not forgotten to be gracious. Our hearts have been sweetly comforted together, and we humbly trust, it has been to many of us, a season of refreshment from the God. Our brethren of these Yearly Meetings have been brought feelingly before our minds, and, in view of the varied trials and difficulties of the present day, we have been led to crave that we may be preserved in love towards all. The feeling (exercise and concern alluded to in your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last, which was received and read among us) "That we may so live in the spirit of Christ as to witness in our hearts that he who dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God," is cordially responded to by us. "God is love". How comprehensive is this declaration! How marvellously is this love displayed in the provision he has made for the redemption of his fallen creature, man! "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." May we be concerned dear brethren, to dwell under the influence of this precious faith in the Son of God, as it is mercifully declared where to obtain, whose gift alone it is. "Faith worketh by love". This love is pure and raised above all selfish and earthly considerations. It embraces all mankind; but is more especially felt towards those who are united with us in the bonds of gospel fellowship. However widely scattered, it enables us to feel that we are one people, baptized by the one Spirit into one body.

In considering the state of Society as developed in the answers to the queries, it was cause of exercise that so many deficiencies were apparent; yet, we were comforted in believing that the God is still mindful of us, and near to do us good. The word of counsel, of admonition, and of encouragement flowed freely,

and we believe to the comfort and refreshment of many minds. Much sympathy was felt for those who dwell in places where their meetings are small, and often held in silence. These were encouraged to be faithful in the attendance of all our religious meetings, even though the pressure of temporal affairs might seem often to interfere with the performance of this duty. It was believed that these meetings when thus attended from a religious concern, would often be found seasons of refreshment, which would amply repay for any sacrifice thus made. Indeed it is clear to our minds that no substantial growth in the truth can be looked for, where this duty is neglected.

A lively concern was also felt, that parents might not, through mistaken tenderness, fail in their duty to their precious offspring. If the latter are not taught obedience in early life, there is great reason to fear that on this account, they will find increased difficulty, in after years, in bowing their necks to the Yoke of Christ. Where parental authority is maintained in our families on the basis of love, we have no doubt a blessing will often be found to attend; concord and harmony will be more likely to exist, and we believe the bonds of affection will not be found to be weakened thereby. The children also, on their part in such families, will be disposed to render to their parents that cheerful obedience, which is their due.

Under this Christian concern for the welfare of their beloved offspring, parents will be engaged frequently to assemble their families for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and for silent waiting before the Lord. They will also feel it to be a duty to guard the tender minds of their children against the pernicious influence of much that issues from the press at the present day, calculated to gratify a morbid thirst for excitement, to produce an unhealthy and unquiet state of mind, and to create a distaste for serious reading and reflection.

"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Jobey Clerk

To North Carolina.

Dear Friends,

Being permitted again to assemble in our Yearly Meeting, we have reverently to acknowledge the unmerited mercy of the Lord, in that he has been pleased to meet with us by his Holy Spirit enabling us to labour together in much brotherly harmony, in the interesting concerns that have engaged our attention.

In addressing our friends of your Yearly Meeting, at this time, and acknowledging the receipt of your truly acceptable Epistle of last year, it is under a renewed sense of the value of correspondence of this kind, to our branch of the Christian Church, especially when maintained above its ancient ground, as a means of interchanging amongst brethren, the salutations of the Gospel of peace; or of conveying to each other fresh incitements to vigilance in the things of the Lord.

* * * * *

We have felt very tenderly to desire for you, as for ourselves, that we

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Humbled as we are to enter into the labours of those who have gone before us, we cannot be insensible to the weight of obligation resting upon us for the upholding of that standard of Truth and Righteousness, which we are called upon faithfully to bear before the world. To this end, we are comforted in believing, that the hand of the Lord is mercifully laid upon many of the Young men, and many who may be called the rising race of this Society, for their own, and for the Church's good. For these, an earnest solicitude has been felt and expressed, that whatever be their talents, or whatever their endowments, all may be freely offered upon the Lord's altar, and thoroughly consecrated to his service; that thus prepared, they may worthily be found standing in the places of those, who, ere long will be gathered home to their final rest.

Our minds have been drawn into tender sympathy with you, our dear friends in your several locations, where, from various causes, your numbers have become much reduced, and your religious meetings, of course, small. Our desire is for you, that you may find encouragement in the consideration, that while more numerous bodies may be blessed in the baptizing presence of him, who is head over all things to his Church, it is through the Spirit of the same living Helper, who entered once the lowly dwelling of the humbling disciples, (when even the doors were shut for fear of the Jews) with the message of "Peace be unto you"; that he who blessed to abundance the gathering of the multitude, is the same gracious one, who held sweet converse with the two sorrowing disciples, as they journeyed by the way. Of ourselves, without him we can do nothing. In our intercourse with the world, this truth is felt in its full force; especially when we contemplate the position in which we are designed to stand as lights in the world, and as a City set upon an hill. But being well assured that they that put their trust in the Lord, shall never be confounded; that they shall be as Mount Zion that cannot be removed, we would in reverence of spirit, commend you unto him "Who is able to keep that which is committed unto him, until the day of Jesus Christ," and in him bid you affectionately, farewell!

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

To Indiana.

Dear Friends,

We have been permitted to meet in this our Annual Assembly, and enabled to transact the important concerns which have come before us, in much harmony and brotherly love; and we desire to commemorate the goodness of the Lord in granting us a fresh evidence that his mercy is still towards us, and that his banner over us is love. May we all be concerned to lay down our crowns at his footstool, that the Lord and his blessed cause only be

exalted. Then shall we experience our bread to be given us, and our waters to be sure.

Our several sittings have been seasons of Divine favour, and our hearts contrited before the Lord, through the free flowings of that love both immediately and instrumentally, which treathes "peace on Earth and good will to men". To the Lord be the praise.

You have been brought afresh to our remembrance by the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 10th month last; and similar testimonials of brotherly love, have been received from those with whom we have heretofore corresponded in this County, (except Philadelphia and Ohio) with a Brotherly epistle from our friends of the Yearly Meeting of London. We believe this epistolary correspondence originated in the Truth, and is calculated to strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship, and to encourage us to persevere in the straight and narrow way that leadeth unto life, as in ancient times they who feared the Lord spake often one unto another, and a Book of Remembrance was written before Him.

We are from time to time reminded of the uncertainty of all earthly things, and that here we have no continuing city, by the removal of some of our dear fathers and mothers, who have long borne the burthen and heat of the day, from works to rewards. It is affecting to contemplate our own and the Church's loss - but we are comforted with a hope that there are those amongst us, who are under the preparing hand for usefulness, and we trust, as obedience keeps pace with knowledge, there will be a succession of standard bearers raised up, who, through the power of the Gospel of Christ will be enabled to hold up an ensign to the nations; evincing that they have not followed cunningly devised fables, but the good Shepherd who putteth forth his own, and goeth before them. "My sheep hear my voice, and they follow me, and a stranger they will not follow, for they know not the voice of a Stranger"

We mourn over those few of our former members, who, from indulging in a spirit of disaffection and jealousy, have gone out from us, in a separation. For them our desire is, that He, who is a healer of breaches, may so influence their minds, that they may be restored to the bosom of the Society.

We have been comforted in the remembrance, that our beloved friends of your Yearly Meeting, and others, with whom we are now in correspondence, have manifested their sympathies with us, in our late trials, and have continued to extend to us the hand of fellowship. We can not acknowledge, that these tokens of Christian love, have strengthened and bound us together as with a three fold cord which is not easily broken.

We notice with deep interest the care manifested for your beloved children, that they may receive a guarded religious education, free from many of the temptations that are in the world, and desire your encouragement herein. Your continued labour and concern for the improvement of the much injured Aborigines, and the oppressed African race, is comforting to many hearts, manifesting the prevalence of that love, which, in the Gospel embraces all for whom Christ died.

We rejoice that way has opened for you to issue a memorial to the Government of our common Country, upon the subject of War, and against all wars and fightings. We desire that the hearts of our Rulers may be so touched by the spirit of the Gospel

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that peace may be again restored to our beloved Land.

Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are your friends and brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Thomas Boyd Abbey Clerk

To Philadelphia.

Dear Friends,

We are again assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, and under; as we humbly trust, a living engagement for the honour and advancement of the cause of Truth, we have, as we reverently believe, been given renewedly to witness the overshadowing wing of ancient Goodness to be near us; under a sense whereof, we have been comforted and strengthened together; and feel bound to return thanks unto the Holy Head of the Church, for the continued mercies vouchsafed to us.

In addressing you, dear brethren, at this time, we do not feel called upon to dwell upon the various engagements that have exercised this meeting; but think it right to allude to one subject that has called forth much feeling, and as we believe, living concern, namely, that of the ancient practice of the different Yearly Meetings of Friends, of annually saluting each other by Epistles. This practice, commenced as it was at a very early day in the history of our Society was instituted, as we believe, under the direction of best wisdom, and has been productive of much good to the body at large, when conducted under the same guidance that led to its establishment. Through its means the different Yearly Meetings of Friends have been enabled to inform each other of the dealings of the Lord with them, and of the prosperity of the Truth, within their respective borders: a channel has thereby been opened for the communication of counsel, or of the concerns for the cause of Truth which might arise in any portion of our heritage; the distant members of our Society have been brought near together, and strengthened under a sense of their constituting one body of which Christ is the Head, engaged alike for the promotion of his honour, and sympathising one with another in the various trials incident to our militant state; concerned also for the preservation one of another in the unchangeable Truth.

With these views, and under these feelings, we have deeply regretted not having received at this time, nor last year, any epistolary salutation from you according to our long continued, and, we believe, hitherto uninterrupted practice. We have adverted, as at our last meeting, to the very interesting circumstances under which our correspondence was commenced, when, in the year 1699, your Meeting saw its way to propose it, and sent two beloved and faithful brethren to us, to spread the concern before our Meeting, that, in your own emphatic language, we might "hear of the affairs of Truth, and how Truth prospers, and for the mutual comfort and strength of each other."

A correspondence thus commenced, and blessed, as we trust it has been, we do not feel at liberty in our own will and time to discontinue; nor do we know, on our part, of any cause that should interrupt it. Under these feelings, we are moved again to address you; again to salute you in the fellowship of the Gospel; again to offer you this token of our continued love.

Earnestly craving that you, with ourselves, may be directed by the great Head of the Church, and that we may be enabled to do His Holy Will, we bid you affectionately, farewell!

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Henry Clerk

To Ohio.

Dear Friends,

Being favoured to meet together, at this time, in our Yearly Meeting; and by the unmerited mercy and goodness of our Heavenly Father, through the influence of his love, made sensible of the fellowship of the Gospel, and dipped into a feeling of the preciousness of that living faith, and the baptism which not only saves from sin, but purifies the corruptible nature of which in the fall we are all partakers, even the baptism of the Holy Spirit, (that unspeakable gift and grace, which comes by Jesus Christ our Lord, through his meritorious death and gracious mediation) our brethren of the other Yearly Meetings, (fellow professors with us of the same precious truth, and as we believe, bound by the obligations of our holy profession with us, to be each others helpers in the Lord) have been brought very near to our best feelings.

Epistles from each of the Yearly Meetings on this continent, excepting from your Yearly Meeting, and that of Philadelphia, have been received and read. From our friends, of the Yearly Meeting in London, we have also received a truly cordial salutation of love, in an Epistle. These tokens of brotherly regard, we highly value. They serve to strengthen our faith, that the Great Shepherd is still mindful of us, as members of his flock and family, and still regardeth us in our low estate, as of the household of faith. Very earnest have been our desires, that through the grace of God, that grace which cometh by Jesus Christ, we may with you, be built up in the most holy faith, preserved on that one sure and only foundation, disallowed indeed and rejected of men, but chosen of God, even the rock Christ Jesus, which has become the head of the corner

This precious faith of the Gospel, as it has its operation on our hearts, working by love to their purification, bringeth forth the peaceable fruits of righteousness, among which are peace, joy, long-suffering and kindness. "Now abideth these three, faith, hope and charity, but the greatest of these is charity - the perfect love of God shed abroad in the heart, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Under these feelings and as we trust, in the love of the Gospel, we think it right to salute you, and earnestly desire you, seriously, and in the sight of God, to inquire what is there

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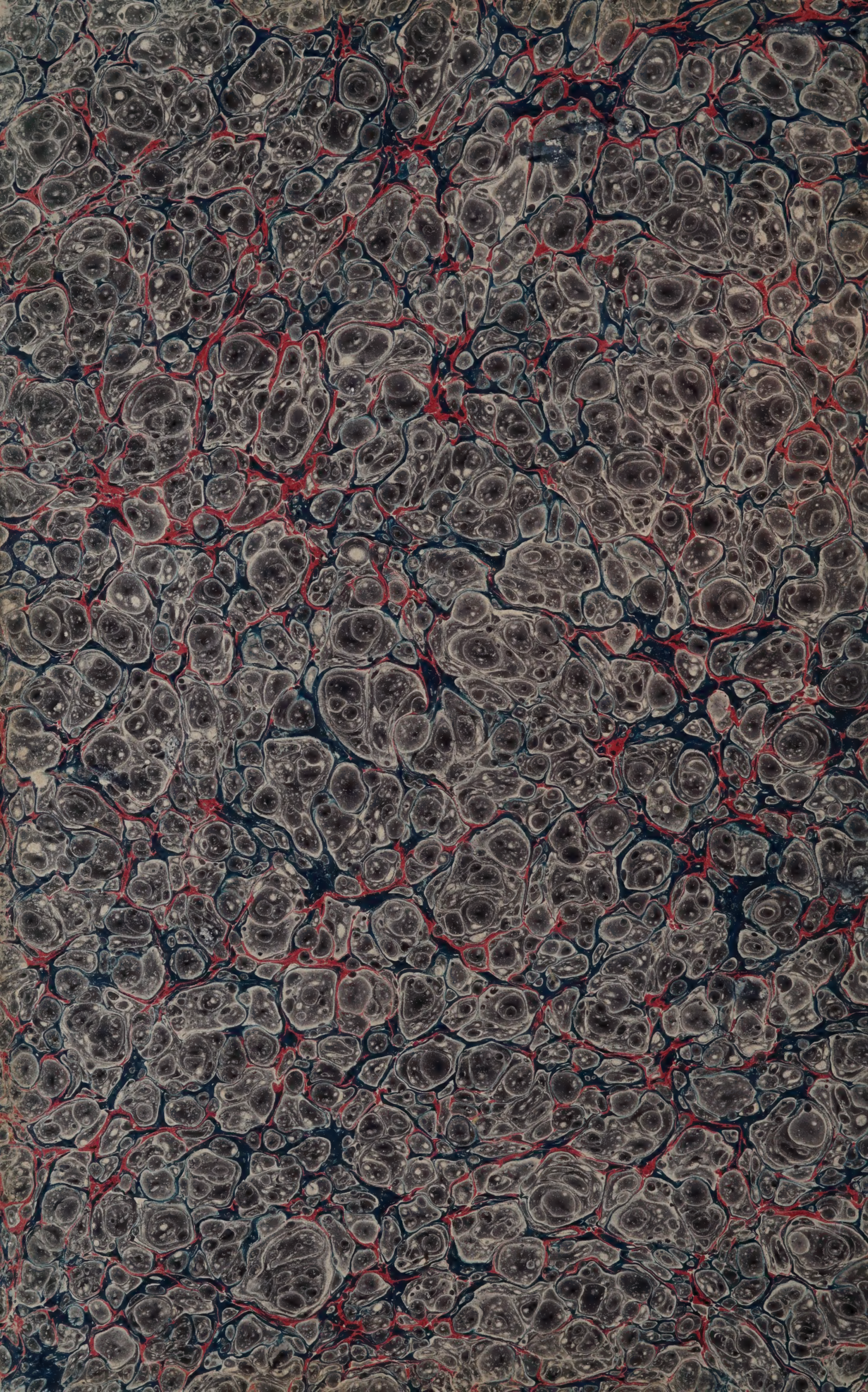
that should hinder the flow of Gospel love between us, or its manifestation, one towards the other, through the channel of an Epistolary intercourse. This intercourse was commenced in the days of our early predecessors in the Truth. It has been continued, almost unbroken, between the various Yearly Meetings through our whole history. It has been largely blessed as a means of preserving us, as one people, unitedly treading up in the fear of the Lord, those precious doctrines and testimonies given us to bear; and, as we believe, has tended much to strengthen the bonds, wherewith, in the fellowship of the Gospel, we have been heretofore united.

We salute you as we humbly trust and believe, in a measure of that Christian love, which, in its abundings, reaches from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. We desire your prosperity in the ever blessed Truth, that you may be built up in Christ our Holy Head, and that you, with ourselves, may so run the race that is set before us, that in the end, we may be graciously enabled to win the prize, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are your friends and brethren.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of said Meeting, by

Samuel Boyd Tobey Clerk

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